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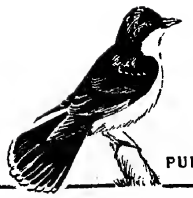

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THE NEW YORK STATE AVIAN RECORDS COMMITTEE

At the annual meeting of the Federation Council of Delegates in Oneonta in September, 1975, upon urging by Gordon Meade, Paul DeBenedictis introduced a proposal for a New York State Avian Records Committee, the essence of which is quoted below:

"Two events make it appropriate for the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs to organize a procedure to deal with records of birds in New York State. First, it is now clear that distributional records of birds cannot all be substantiated by the collecting of specimens, because of restrictions on scientific collecting, the ambience of many records, and the conservation ethic expressed by professional and amateur ornithologists alike. However, this change makes more difficult the task of assembling and verifying new information. American ornithology has long struggled with this problem but with little progress. The system of a Records or Rarities Committee, first devised in Great Britain, has been adopted widely elsewhere and found to be effective by almost all.

"Second, the recent publication of *Birds of New York State* by John Bull (Doubleday Natural History Press, New York, N.Y.; 1974) provides a current summary of known distributional patterns against which the observer may judge how his records conform with previous knowledge. Moreover, this text clearly indicates the impact of non-specimen-backed records on our understanding of avian distribution in New York, as well as the present difficulties in dealing with such records. The *next* state bird book surely will be even more dominated by such records. Unless a system to screen new records is established now, that future author will be overwhelmed by the task of interpreting the new reports that the increasing population of New York ornithologists is sure to produce.

"The Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, by its contact with ornithological groups throughout the state, is uniquely able to contact both those persons who will produce new records and also those persons who are qualified to judge their validity. Therefore, this proposal recommends that the Federation establish an organization to review records of birds in New York State, to be known as the New York State Avian Records Committee.

"The New York State Avian Records Committee would review all records of birds in New York State which are of exceptional interest. The Committee would solicit all records of species: a) treated

as 'accidental' or 'casual' within the state; b) not previously reported within the state; c) of more abundant species when the report is greatly anomalous as to date (more than one month outside dates of regular occurrence) or locale (sufficiently distant from areas of regular distribution that listing of individual records remains feasible, such as Gray Jay downstate or alcids upstate) or which alter known status (such as first breeding records); and d) of any additional species whose review is deemed appropriate by the committee. Unless specifically indicated otherwise, the current status of species could be taken from the *Birds of New York State (op. cit.).*"

The proposal was tabled after considerable discussion. The Executive Committee has since been working to clarify details of the proposal. We feel that a NYSARC is needed, can be designed to fit conditions in New York, and the system can function in a reasonable manner. We are agreed that submissions to such a committee will be entirely voluntary.

We have corresponded with Records Committees from other states and received generous help. Guidelines, bylaws, and internal operating procedures are now being prepared, and will be presented for the approval of the member clubs at the 1976 Annual Meeting. We need advice and suggestions from clubs and individuals, so that the NYSARC reflects the needs of the membership of the New York State Federation of Bird Clubs.

Any suggestion on composition, membership, manner of operation, types of records to be considered, or anything else, should be sent to one of the three below:

William C. Vaughan	Paul DuBowy	Morgan Jones
760 Main Street	502 Hudson Street	Seneca Army Depot
Niagara Falls, NY 14301	Ithaca, NY 14850	Romulus, NY 14541

EDS. NOTE: We would also invite letters concerning the above to appear in *The Kingbird.* It was apparent from the discussion engendered by this proposal that many persons had strong feelings on the subject. It seems appropriate to air these feelings to the readers of this magazine.

DEVELOPMENT OF SONG IN A MOCKINGBIRD HAND-REARED FROM THE EGG IN A CONTROLLED AUDITORY ENVIRONMENT

by SCOTT M. LANYON

The development of successful techniques for hand-rearing songbirds from the egg (Lanyon and Lanyon, 1971) has opened new possibilities for the investigation of song development. Artificially incubating the eggs isolates young birds from the natural stimuli and learning experiences normally provided by the adult birds and the nest environment. With this technique it is now possible to determine the relative importance of learning in the development of song in a variety of species. The technique by no means is limited to work in vocalizations, for it is equally applicable to research on other aspects of avian behavior.

Our Mockingbird *(Mimus polyglottos)* is of particular interest because of the diversity of its songs and the inclusion of imitations of environmental sounds in its repertoire. The purpose of this study was primarily to determine whether a Mockingbird hand-reared from the egg in sound isolation is capable of developing a song characteristic of its species. Secondly, I asked whether a bird reared as stated above and placed in an enriched auditory environment at one year of age would then modify its song, and if so, in what way.

I have not been the first to attempt to answer these particular questions with respect to *Mimus polyglottos.* Several birds were raised in varying degrees of isolation from two to three days of age (Hatch, 1967) and several others were raised from the nestling stage with no attempt at auditory isolation (Laskey, 1944). Hatch found that the song of his partially isolated birds was generally characteristic of Mockingbird song. Both Hatch and Laskey produced evidence to suggest an ability of Mockingbirds to modify their song at one year of age. To my knowledge, no one previously has hand-reared Mockingbirds successfully from the egg.

METHODS

This study was conducted at the American Museum of Natural History's Kalbfleisch Field Research Station on Long Island. Two eggs were taken on 10 June 1973 and placed in a sound control chamber operated as a still air incubator. The two eggs hatched on 13 June, after having been artificially incubated for three days. The

diet of the nestlings was a special nestling soft-bill mix developed at the Kalbfleisch Station (Lanyon and Lanyon, 1971).

The two birds, subsequently sexed as male and female, were kept together throughout the first year. When two months old they were moved to a windowless "white noise room" where the motor noise from a powerful air-conditioning unit served to isolate them acoustically by masking all sound from outside the room. At four months of age they were moved to a larger "white noise room" where this masking effect was produced by a window air-conditioning unit. They remained here until eleven months old.

At this point the second phase of my study began for it was at this eleven month old stage that they were placed in an outdoor aviary. Here they were exposed to numerous territorial birds including a male Mockingbird.

Only the hand-reared male sang, and therefore my remarks are concerned solely with this bird, which I will henceforth refer to as the "experimental."

To analyze my recordings I used three representative selections, each five minutes in length. I used three basic parameters in this study: group length, inter-group interval, and the number of phrases per group (See figure 2).

A *phrase* is a set of notes in close temporal association which occurs in a set pattern as shown in figure 2. A *group* is a set of one or more identical phrases as shown in figure 2.

Group Length—The distance between the beginning of the first phrase of a group and the end of the last phrase in that group as shown in figure 2.

Inter-Group Interval—The distance between the end of the last phrase of one group and the beginning of the first phrase in the next group as shown in figure 2.

Number of Phrases Per Group—The number of phrases in each group; it demonstrates the repetitive nature of the song as shown in figure 2.

These data were obtained through actual measurement of each indicated segment of tape and the conversion of this linear measurement into units of time based on a constant tape speed of 7½ inches/second.

In making this analysis I discovered a fair imitation of a call of a Blue Jay *(Cyanocitta cristata)* included in the experimental's song at nine months of age. I then tested the effectiveness of the sound

isolation of the large "white noise room" and concluded that the only sounds that the experimental could possibly have heard were those exceptionally loud calls that were given directly outside the window. There were no territorial Mockingbirds in the vicinity to which the experimental could have been exposed, but it is likely that he did hear a Blue Jay at some point during his first winter.

Recordings were made on a Uher 4000 Report-L Tape Recorder and a Uher 4400 Report-Stereo at a tape speed of 7½ inches/second. Several recordings were made both before and after the experimental

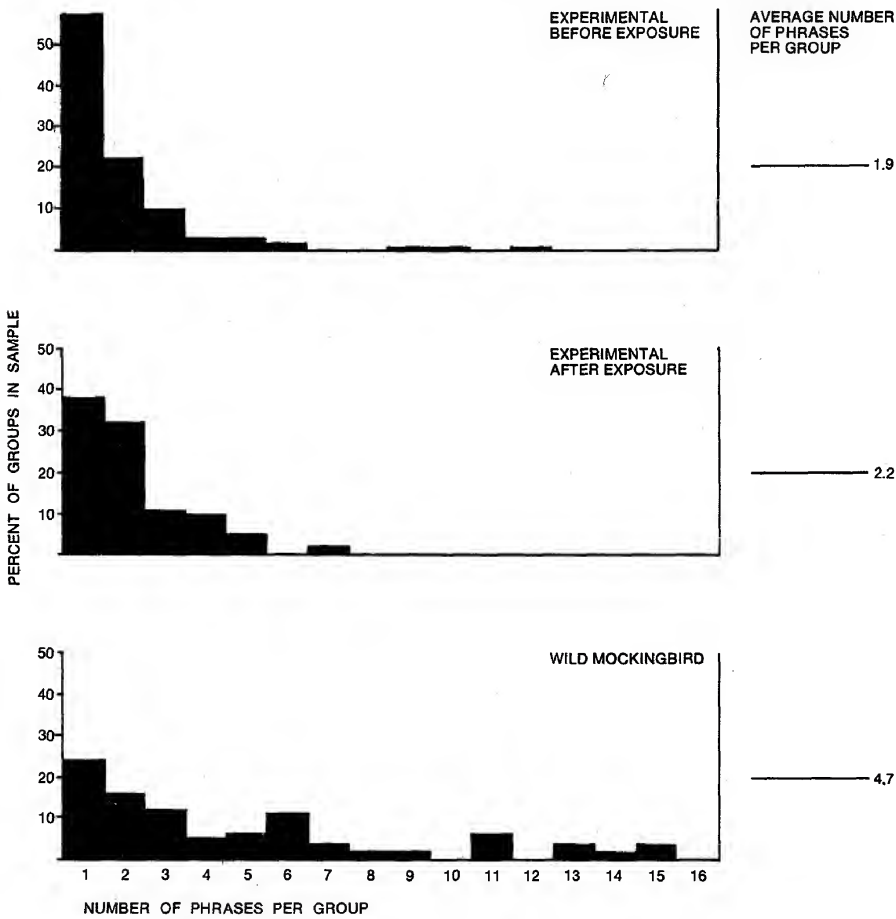

Figure 1. A comparison of the number of phrases per group between the experimental before exposure, the experimental after exposure, and a wild Mockingbird.

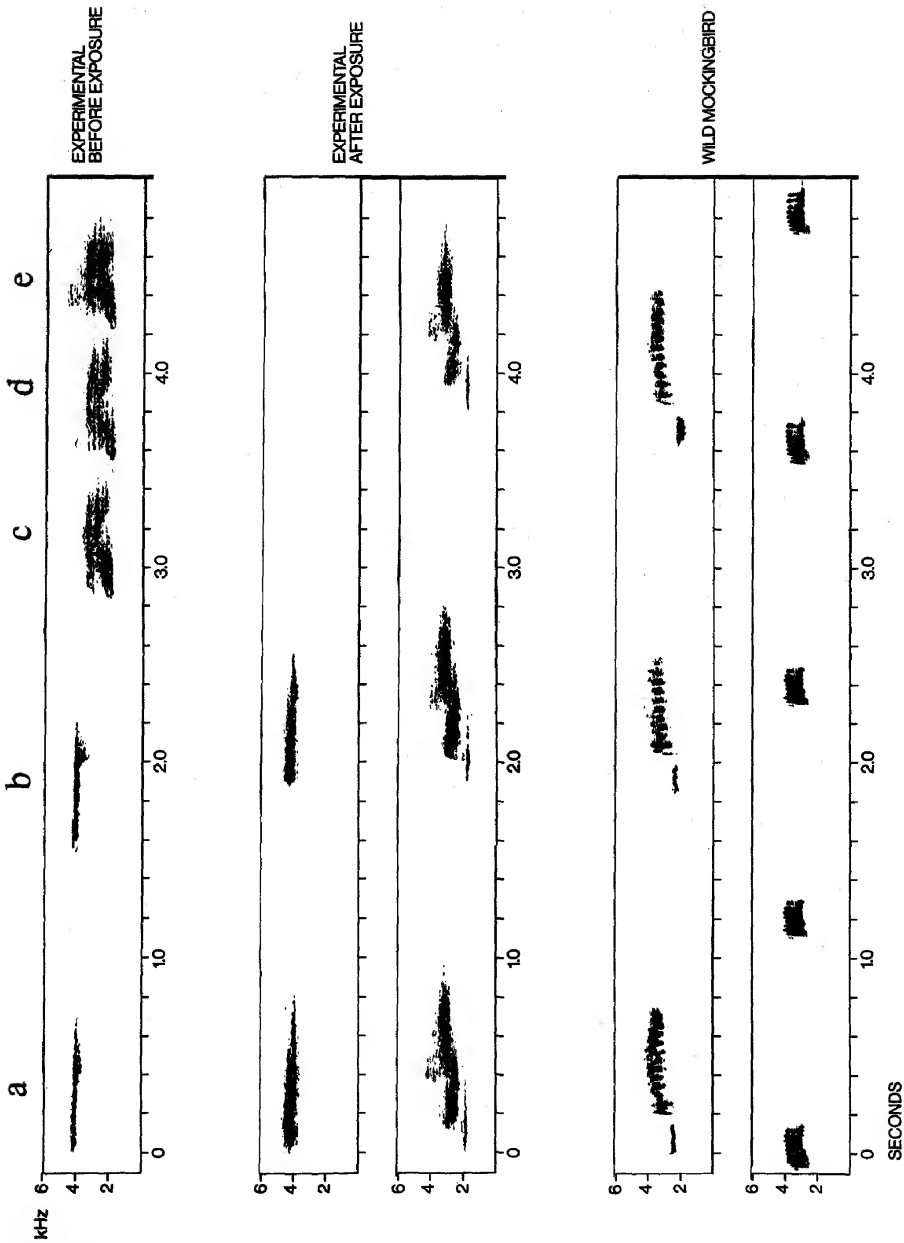

Figure 2. A comparison of song structure in the experimental before exposure, the experimental after exposure, and a wild Mockingbird. a, b, c, d, e are all phrases, a, b comprise one group and c, d, e comprise another (a group being defined by one or more similar phrases in succession).

was placed in the outdoor aviary. A recording of a wild Mockingbird was made at the Kalbfleisch Station to serve as the control in my analysis.

RESULTS

The number of phrases per group, and thus the repetitiveness of the song, had a much lower average in the experimental's song before exposure than in the song of a wild Mockingbird (1.9 versus 4.7, see figure 1). This was also the case in the experimental's song after exposure to the enriched auditory environment (2.2 versus 4.7), although at this point the experimental had increased the average slightly over the value of his first year (1.9 versus 2.2). Figure 2 consists of a segment of song from the experimental before and after exposure, and a segment of the song of the wild Mockingbird. Each segment consists of two groups, and in the case of the experimental's song these groups contain a total of five phrases in both cases, while in the wild Mockingbird's song there is a total of eight phrases. This is a good example of how much more repetitious the wild Mockingbird's song is than either song of the experimental.

The next parameter measured, that of the group length, proved to be considerably shorter in the experimental's song before exposure than in the song of the wild Mockingbird (1.5 versus 4.7), and the inter-group interval was shorter as well (0.5 versus 1.1, see figure 3). Due to the relative shortness of these parameters the experimental in the first phase of the study had a much faster rate of delivery (in terms of groups per minute), a rate three times that of the wild Mockingbird (30.4 versus 10.5). This is demonstrated in figure 2 by the fact that the two groups for the experimental before exposure are only half as long as the two groups for the wild Mockingbird.

In the second phase of the study, after exposure to a varied sound environment, the experimental's average group length nearly doubled (3.2 versus 1.5), but the most dramatic modification occurred in the delivery rate. Whereas in the first phase the experimental had a rate three times that of the wild bird (30.4 versus 10.5), in the second phase the delivery rate was almost identical to that of the wild bird (10.9 versus 10.5). This drastic modification was accomplished by an increase in the length of the pauses in its song (inter-group interval), which in fact exceeded that of the wild bird by a factor of two (2.4 versus 1.1).

As a result of its exposure, the experimental's song contained several imitations, including Great Crested Flycatcher *(Myiarchus crini-*

tus), Common Crow *(Corvus brachyrhynchos),* Blue Jay *(Cyanocitta cristata),* and Red-winged Blackbird *(Agelaius phoeniceus).*

CONCLUSIONS

It appears that the general characteristics of the song of *Mimus polyglottos* with respect to the repetitious nature of the patterns and the pitch, are inherited, that is, are not dependent upon learning from experienced birds. The detail of the actual patterns within the song, including imitations of sounds from the environment, must be learned. Secondly, it appears that Mockingbirds are capable of learning and adding to their vocal repertoire even when one year old.

SUMMARY

A Mockingbird, hand-reared from the egg and in isolation from other birds during its first year, developed a song generally characteristic of its species with respect to the pitch and the repetitious nature of the song, but lacking in the precise characteristics of timing. After exposure to an enriched auditory environment, even though one year old, this bird added to its repertoire a number of imitations of recognizable tutors to which it had been exposed, and modified its song by slightly increasing the number of phrases per group, by lengthening each group, and by a dramatic decrease in the rate of

	GROUP DELIVERY RATE (groups/minute)	GROUP LENGTH (average and range, in seconds)	LENGTH OF INTERGROUP INTERVAL (average and range, in seconds)
EXPERIMENTAL BEFORE EXPOSURE	30.4	1.5 (0.1–4.4)	0.5 (0–4.3)
EXPERIMENTAL AFTER EXPOSURE	10.9	3.2 (0.1–17.5)	2.4 (0–5.2)
WILD MOCKINGBIRD	10.5	4.7 (0.2–15.5)	1.1 (0.1–3.5)

Figure 3. A comparison of three parameters between the experimental before exposure, the experimental after exposure, and a wild Mockingbird.

delivery of groups—all modifications that brought the experimental bird's song closer to that typical of its species.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

It's a pleasure to thank Dr. Wesley Lanyon for help with forming the experimental procedure and for reading an earlier version of a manuscript. I'd also like to thank Edwin Szalay and Vernia Lanyon for their help in feeding and general care for the birds. Finally I'd like to express my appreciation to the American Museum of Natural History whose equipment I used in this study.

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State University College at Geneseo, New York.

THE BIRDS OF JAMAICA BAY WILDLIFE REFUGE

THOMAS H. DAVIS

Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge (JBWR) was established in 1953 by the City of New York. In 1973 the land passed into the hands of the National Park Service as part of Gateway National Recreation Area. To date, 312 species of birds have been recorded at the refuge.

This compilation of the birds of JBWR is meant for visiting birders who want to know what species they may expect to see. The task of assembling this list was made difficult by the lack of any file of past sightings. Also, a list published by New York City's Cultural Council Foundation contained many unsubstantiated sightings and escapes. Escaped cage birds appear at JBWR frequently, due to the proximity of the refuge to New York City and J.F.K. International Airport. Some escapes are obvious, such as Bar-headed and Egyptian Geese, Spur-winged Plover, parrots, and other "exotics." Others are less easily categorized, such as White-cheeked (Bahama) Pintail, Common Ground Dove, and Black-billed Magpie, all of which might have occurred at the refuge under natural circumstances but are excluded from this list.

SEASONAL HEADINGS

Sp— Spring: principally April and May, but in a broader sense, the spring migration.

Su— Summer: June and July, the breeding season.

eF— early Fall: August and September. Early fall migrants include shorebirds, flycatchers, vireos, and warblers.

lF— late Fall: October and November. Late fall migrants include waterfowl, hawks, and finches.

W— Winter: December to March.

STATUS SYMBOLS

A— abundant: more than 50 individuals are usually recorded on every visit at this season.

C— common: 10 to 50 individuals usually recorded every visit.

U— uncommon: 1 to 9 individuals per visit, often missed.

R— rare: only a few individuals recorded throughout the season, sometimes missed.

Yellow Bar Hassock
Pumpkin Patch Channel
wreck
Boat Station
to Woodhaven Blvd.
tern nesting area
Black Bank Marsh
House
Black Wall Channel
West Pond (fresh)
Black Wall Marsh
ruins
Ruler's Bar
HQ
East Pond (fresh)
pilings
Grassy Bay
Goose Pond Marsh
Jack's Hole Creek
Broad Channel
IND Subway Sta.
park boundary
Broad Creek Marsh
East High Meadow
JAMAICA BAY REFUGE
PART OF GATEWAY NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
U.S. DEPT. OF INTERIOR
0 1/8 1/4 3/8 1/2 mile
salt marsh
freshwater marsh
bayberry etc.
beach
trees
NEW JERSEY
MANHATTAN
QUEENS
BROOKLYN
STATEN ISLAND
JFK INT'L AIRPORT (ISLAND)
CROSS BAY BOULEVARD
VERRAZANO BRIDGE
PARKWAY
Rockaway Point
Atlantic Ocean
MILES
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BREEDING SPECIES

Species known to have nested at JBWR are preceded by an asterisk. Species not known to have bred since 1970 have the asterisk enclosed in parentheses. Other species have disappeared or will disappear as ecological changes take place. This is especially true at the West Pond, which has become more saline in recent years. Pied-billed Grebes, Least Bitterns, Pintails, American Wigeons, American Coots, and other freshwater marsh nesting birds probably no longer breed. Also, a tern colony situated west of the West Pond was abandoned in the late 1960's, despite protection. This colony was composed of several hundred pairs of Common Terns, and about 50 pairs of Black Skimmers, with a few pairs of Least Terns and Piping Plovers at its periphery. Presently, all the herons, American Oystercatchers, Piping Plovers, Great Black-backed and Herring Gulls, and Common Terns nest on remote islands scattered about Jamaica Bay. The Black Skimmer no longer breeds in the vicinity of Jamaica Bay.

The terminology employed in this list is purposely somewhat vague and therefore flexible. The status symbols employed reflect each species' status at JBWR, not throughout the New York City region. Many species which might even be considered abundant in nearby areas are listed as uncommon or rare at JBWR because the species' favored habitat does not exist here. For example, all three species of scoters are abundant in migration off the Rockaway beaches but are rarely seen at JBWR. Tufted Titmice are common residents of nearby Forest Park but this species has not yet been recorded at JBWR. When there was doubt about how to define a species' status at JBWR I have opted for the more conservative definition. It is better to be surprised at finding more than expected rather than less. If interested readers desire to consult detailed references to the birds of the New York City region they are urged to see John Bull's *Birds of the New York Area* (Harper and Row, New York, 1964), Supplement to Birds of the New York Area (*Proc. of the Linnaean Society of New York* 71: 1-54, 1970), and *Birds of New York State* (Doubleday/Natural History Press, Garden City, NY, 1974).

		Sp	Su	eF	lF	W
	Loon, Common	U			U	R
	Red-throated	R			R	R
	Grebe, Red-necked					R
	Horned	C			C	C
	Eared	R		R	R	
*	Pied-billed	U	U	U	U	R
	Cormorant, Great				R	R
	Double-crested	A	R	C	U	
	Great Blue Heron	U	R	U	C	U
*	Egret, Great	C	C	C	U	R
*	Snowy	C	C	A	C	U
*	Cattle	U	U	U	R	
*	Heron, Louisiana	U	U	U	R	
*	Little Blue	U	U	U	R	
*	Green	C	C	C	U	R
*	Black-crowned Night	A	A	A	A	C
*	Yellow-crowned Night	U	U	U		
(*)	Bittern, American	U	R	R	U	U
*	Least	U	U	U		
*	Glossy Ibis	A	A	A	C	R
	Swan, Mute		R	R		
	Whistling				R	
*	Canada Goose	C	U	U	A	U
	Brant	A	U	U	A	A
	Snow Goose	C	R	R	C	U
*	Mallard	A	A	A	A	A
*	Black Duck	A	A	A	A	A
*	Gadwall	C	C	C	C	U
*	Pintail	U	R	U	A	C
*	Teal, Green-winged	C	U	C	C	U
*	Blue-winged	C	U	C	U	R
	Wigeon, European	R		R	R	R
*	American	A	R	C	A	A
*	Northern Shoveler	U	R	U	C	U
	Wood Duck	U	R	U	U	
*	Redhead	U	U	U	U	
	Ring-necked Duck	U	R	R	U	
	Canvasback	C	R	R	A	A

		Sp	Su	eF	lF	W
	Scaup, Greater	A	U	U	A	A
	Lesser	U			U	U
	Common Goldeneye	R			U	C
	Bufflehead	A	R	R	A	A
	Oldsquaw				U	U
	Eider, Common	R	R		R	R
	King	R	R			R
	Scoter, White-winged				R	R
	Surf				R	R
	Black				R	R
*	Ruddy Duck	A	C	C	A	A
	Merganser, Hooded	U	R	R	U	R
	Common				U	U
	Red-breasted	C	U	U	C	A
	Turkey Vulture	R				
	Goshawk				R	R
	Hawk, Sharp-shinned	R			U	
	Cooper's	R			R	
	Red-tailed	R			R	R
	Red-shouldered	R			R	
	Broad-winged	R		R		
	Rough-legged				R	U
	Bald Eagle			R		R
*	Marsh Hawk	U	R	U	U	U
	Osprey	U		U	U	
	Gyrfalcon					R
	Peregrine Falcon	R		R	R	R
	Merlin	R		R	U	R
*	American Kestrel	U	R	U	C	U
*	Bobwhite	C	C	C	C	C
*	Ring-necked Pheasant	R	R	R	R	R
	Rail, King	R			R	R
*	Clapper	C	C	C	U	U
	Virginia	U		U	U	R
	Sora	U	R	U	R	
	Rail, Yellow	R			R	
	Black	R		R		
*	Common Gallinule	U	U	U	R	R

	Sp	Su	eF	lF	W
* American Coot	U	U	U	C	C
* American Oystercatcher	U	U	R		
Plover, Semipalmated	A	R	A	U	
* Piping	R	R	R		
* Killdeer	C	C	C	C	U
Plover, American Golden	R		U	U	
Black-bellied	A	U	A	A	C
Ruddy Turnstone	C	R	C	U	
* American Woodcock	U	U	U	U	R
Common Snipe	U			U	R
Whimbrel	R	R	U		
Sandpiper, Upland	R		R		
* Spotted	C	U	C	U	
Solitary	U		R		
* Willet	U	R	U	R	
Yellowlegs, Greater	A	C	A	A	U
Lesser	C	R	C	U	
Red Knot	A	R	U	R	
Sandpiper, Pectoral	U		C	R	
White-rumped	U		U	U	
Baird's			R		
Least	A	U	A	U	
Curlew	R		R		
Dunlin	C		U	A	A
Dowitcher, Short-billed	A	U	A	U	
Long-billed	R		R	C	R
Sandpiper, Stilt	R		C	U	
Semipalmated	A	U	A	C	R
Western	R		U	U	R
Buff-breasted			R		
Godwit, Marbled	R		R	R	R
Hudsonian			R	R	
Ruff	R		R	R	
Sanderling	C	U	C	C	U
American Avocet			R	R	
Phalarope, Wilson's	R	R	U	R	
Red	R				
Northern	R		R	R	

		Sp	Su	eF	lF	W
	Gull, Glaucous	R			R	R
	Iceland	R			R	R
*	Great Black-backed	C	C	C	A	A
	Lesser Black-backed				R	R
*	Herring	A	A	A	A	A
	Ring-billed	A	U	C	A	A
	Black-headed	R		R	R	R
	Laughing	C	U	C	U	
	Bonaparte's	U	R	R	U	U
	Little	R	R	R	R	R
	Tern, Gull-billed	R	R	R		
	Forster's		R	U	R	
*	Common	A	A	A	R	
	Roseate	R		R		
(*)	Least	C	C	C		
	Royal		R	R		
	Caspian	R	R	R		
	Black	R		R		
(*)	Black Skimmer	C	C	C		
*	Dove, Rock	C	C	C	C	C
*	Mourning	C	C	C	C	C
	Cuckoo, Yellow-billed	R		R		
(*)	Black-billed	R	R	R		
	Owl, Barn	R	R	R	R	R
	Snowy				R	R
	Long-eared				R	R
*	Short-eared	R	R	R	U	U
	Saw-whet				R	R
	Whip-poor-will	R		R		
	Common Nighthawk	R		U		
	Chimney Swift	U	R	U		
	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	R		R		
	Belted Kingfisher	U		U	U	R
*	Common Flicker	C	R	C	C	U
	Woodpecker, Red-bellied	R				
	Red-headed	R		R	R	
	Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied	U		U	U	
	Woodpecker, Hairy	R		R	R	R
	Downy	U	R	U	U	U

		Sp	Su	eF	lF	W
*	Kingbird, Eastern	U	R	U		
	Western			R	R	
	Great Crested Flycatcher	R		R		
	Eastern Phoebe	U		U	C	
	Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied	R		U		
	Acadian	R				
	Willow	R		R		
	Alder	R		U		
	Least	U		U		
	Eastern Wood Pewee	U		U		
	Olive-sided Flycatcher	R		R		
*	Horned Lark	U	R	U	C	C
*	Swallow, Tree	A	C	A	A	R
	Bank	U		U		
	Rough-winged	R		R		
	Barn	A	U	A	U	
	Cliff	R		R		
	Purple Martin	R		R		
	Blue Jay	U		U	C	
	Crow, Common	R	R	R	R	R
	Fish	U	R	R	R	R
	Black-capped Chickadee	R		R	U	R
	Nuthatch, White-breasted	R		R	U	
	Red-breasted	U		U	U	U
	Brown Creeper	U		U	C	
	Wren, House	U		U	R	
	Winter	R			U	
	Carolina	R		R	R	
*	Long-billed Marsh	C	C	C	U	U
	Short-billed Marsh	R		R	R	
*	Mockingbird	U	U	U	U	U
*	Gray Catbird	C	C	C	C	R
*	Brown Thrasher	C	U	C	C	R
*	American Robin	C	U	C	C	U
	Thrush, Wood	U		U		
	Hermit	U			C	R
	Swainson's	U		U		
	Gray-cheeked	U		U		

		Sp	Su	eF	lF	W
	Veery	U		U		
	Eastern Bluebird	R			R	
	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	U		R		
	Kinglet, Golden-crowned	C			C	
	Ruby-crowned	C		U	C	
	Water Pipit	R			U	R
*	Cedar Waxwing	U	R	C	U	R
	Shrike, Northern				R	R
	Loggerhead	R		R	R	R
	Starling	A	A	A	A	A
	Vireo, White-eyed	R		R		
	Yellow-throated	R		R		
	Solitary	U			U	
	Red-eyed	U		C	U	
	Philadelphia	R		U		
	Warbling	R		R		
	Warbler, Black-and-white	U		U	R	
	Prothonotary	R				
	Worm-eating	R				
	Golden-winged	R				
	Blue-winged	U		R		
	Tennessee	R		U		
	Orange-crowned				R	
	Nashville	U		U		
	Parula	C		U		
*	Yellow	C	C	C		
	Magnolia	U		U		
	Cape May	U		C		
	Black-throated Blue	U		U		
	Yellow-rumped	C		U	A	C
	Black-throated Green	U		U		
	Cerulean	U		U		
	Blackburnian	U		U		
	Yellow-throated	R				
	Chestnut-sided	U		U		
	Bay-breasted	U		U		
	Blackpoll	C		U		
	Pine	R		R		

		Sp	Su	eF	lF	W
	Warbler, Prairie	U		U		
	Palm	U		U	C	R
	Ovenbird	U		U		
	Waterthrush, Northern	U		U		
	Louisiana	R				
	Warbler, Kentucky	R				
	Connecticut			R		
	Mourning	R		R		
*	Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C	U	R
	Yellow-breasted Chat	R		R		
	Warbler, Hooded	R		R		
	Wilson's	U		U		
	Canada	U		U		
	American Redstart	U		C	U	
*	House Sparrow	C	C	C	C	C
	Bobolink	U		C	R	
	Eastern Meadowlark	U			U	U
	Blackbird, Yellow-headed			R	R	
*	Red-winged	A	A	A	A	C
	Oriole, Orchard	R		R		
	Northern	U		U	U	
	Rusty Blackbird	U			U	R
*	Common Grackle	C	C	C	C	R
*	Brown-headed Cowbird	C	U	C	C	C
	Tanager, Western	R			R	
	Scarlet	U		U		
	Summer	R				
*	Cardinal	U	U	U	U	U
	Grosbeak, Rose-breasted	U		U		
	Blue	R		R		
	Indigo Bunting	U		U	U	
	Dickcissel	R		U	U	
	Evening Grosbeak	R			R	R
	Finch, Purple	U			U	R
*	House	C	C	C	C	C
	Pine Grosbeak				R	R
	Common Redpoll				R	R
	Pine Siskin	R			U	U

		Sp	Su	eF	lF	W
*	American Goldfinch	U	R	U	C	U
	Crossbill, Red				R	R
	White-winged				R	R
*	Rufous-sided Towhee	C	C	C	C	U
*	Sparrow, Savannah	C	R	R	C	C
	Grasshopper				R	R
	Henslow's	R			R	
*	Sharp-tailed	U	U	U	C	U
*	Seaside	C	C	C	C	U
	Vesper	R			U	
	Lark			R		
	Dark-eyed Junco	C			C	C
	Sparrow, Tree				U	C
	Chipping	U		U	C	R
	Clay-colored			R		
	Field	U		U	U	U
	White-crowned	U			U	R
	White-throated	C			A	C
	Fox	R			U	U
	Lincoln's	U		R	U	
	Swamp	U			C	U
*	Song	C	C	C	C	C
	Lapland Longspur				R	U
	Snow Bunting				R	U

ACCIDENTALS

The following species have been recorded only once or twice:

Sooty Shearwater (*fide* H. Johnson)
White Pelican (Sep 26-Nov 13, 1964)
Wood Stork (Jun 10, 1961)
White Ibis (Oct 25, 1969)
Black Brant (Oct 14-Nov 29, 1974)
Fulvous Tree Duck (May 29-Jun 4, 1965)
Cinnamon Teal (May 20-Jul 18, 1964)
Swallow-tailed Kite (Sep 2, 1956)
Golden Eagle (Oct 31, 1975)
Purple Gallinule (May 14-16, 1958)
Wilson's Plover (information lacking)
Purple Sandpiper (*fide* E. Daly)

Black-necked Stilt (Jun 18, 1972, and Apr 20-25, 1973)
Parasitic Jaeger (information lacking)
Pomarine Jaeger (Jun 17, 1975)
Great Horned Owl (*fide* H. Johnson)
Sage Thrasher (Jan 13-17, 1973)
Redwing (Feb 20-24, 1959)
Townsend's Warbler (May 9, 1970)
Boat-tailed Grackle (May 19, 1972)
Lark Bunting (Jun 6, 1959)

9446 85 Road, Woodhaven, New York 11421

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Tom Davis is undoubtedly one of the most active and energetic birdwatchers in the New York area, or for that matter, any other area. There is no phase of birding that does not claim his interest, from listing to photographing to banding, etc. He has a special interest in neotropical birds and has led several field trips to points in South America, as well as visiting islands in the Caribbean, and points in Mexico and Central America. He is a past president of the Linnaean Society of New York, one of the instigators of the New York Rare Bird Alert, and its present voice and editor. He has been a frequent contributor to *The Kingbird.* He formerly co-edited the Hudson-St. Lawrence Region for *American Birds,* and is the current editor of *The Linnaean News-Letter.* In his spare time he works for the New York Telephone Company.

BROWN BOOBIES ON LONG ISLAND

GILBERT S. RAYNOR

During the fall of 1975, seven sightings of Brown Boobies *(Sula leucogaster)* were reported from the south shore of Long Island, New York. This number is unprecedented since only three previous occurrences are known, the last in 1949 (Bull, *Birds of the New York Area,* Harper and Row, New York 1964). The influx does not seem attributable to any specific weather event.

The Brown Booby breeds north to the West Indies including the Bahamas, but is only casual in Florida and Bermuda according to the AOU Checklist of North American Birds (American Ornithologist's Union, 1957). Palmer *(Handbook of North American Birds,* Volume 1, Yale University Press, 1962) called it an occasional autumn visitor to Bermuda. The AOU Checklist cites accidental occurrences in Massachusetts (Cape Cod), New York (Long Island) and South Carolina. Apparently all these northward displacements were associated with hurricanes.

The present incursion was first noted on September 28 when Dennis Puleston and William Graves observed a single adult at long range flying westward over Bellport Bay opposite Brookhaven. Weather was clear and visibility good. The shape, color pattern and manner of flight were seen clearly enough to determine identity. Puleston is very familiar with the species, having spent much time in tropical waters, including a recent extended visit to the Caribbean where Brown Boobies were seen frequently.

The second observation was made by the writer in the early afternoon on September 30 at Tiana Beach, across Shinnecock Bay from Hampton Bays. Visibility was good. A 20x Bausch and Lomb telescope had been set up when two adult Brown Boobies were observed flying from west to east over the ocean parallel to the shore. One bird was spotted first well to the west, checked with 7x binoculars, immediately recognized and then followed with the telescope as it flew past and continued eastward out of sight. When the first bird was about opposite the observer, the second bird caught up with it, after which they flew close together. The birds were two to three hundred yards offshore and about fifty feet above the water, but all details were clearly visible including the typical booby shape, long pointed wings and tail and heavy bill. The entire upper parts and

breast were dark brown with a sharp line of demarcation between the breast and the white belly. The white extended out beneath the wings and tail. The exact color of the bill could not be made out but it was light in contrast to the dark foreparts. The flight consisted of alternate periods of flapping and gliding. The bird was definitely smaller than a Gannet but larger than a Herring Gull. The observer had previously seen Brown Boobies in the tropical Pacific.

The next observation was made on October 2 by David L. Larsen from the breakwater at Shinnecock Inlet, about two miles east of Tiana. Two adults were seen flying east over the ocean and compared for size with nearby Herring and Great Black-backed Gulls. Larsen is a careful and experienced observer and furnished a written account of his observation too detailed to be included here. His account leaves no doubt concerning his identification.

On October 6, Robert O. Paxton, another experienced observer, saw a single adult flying west just beyond the surf at Gilgo Beach, about fifty miles west of Shinnecock Bay. He also furnished a detailed written account which establishes identity beyond question.

On October 12, a few miles further west at Jones Beach, two adults were seen by Barbara Spencer, an active and competent observer, about 500 yards offshore. Convincing details were described over the telephone and the observation is probably correct, but confusion with Gannets at that distance is a possibility. Gannets had moved into the waters along the south shore in numbers the previous day, and remained common for several weeks. Some came close to shore and a few flew over the inlets and bays or crossed the barrier beach. Many were dark immatures but quite a few were in changing plumage with dark upperparts and whitish bellies, superficially resembling Brown Boobies. Such birds were seen by both the writer and by David Larsen.

On October 13, a single adult was reported flying southeast about one mile off Shinnecock Inlet by John McNeil. The bird was observed from a boat through 7x binoculars. McNeil is a less experienced birder but familiar with Gannets and aware of the differences between these and the booby. The bird was reasonably well described and the identification is probably correct, but the possibility of it being a Gannet in booby-like plumage cannot be completely ruled out.

The final observation differs from all the rest in that it involves two immature Brown Boobies, observed by Dennis Puleston and

Arthur Cooley, flying east about 200 yards out over the ocean at Smith's Point. The birds were watched at length and well described as all dark, lacking the lighter spotting typical of immature Gannets. This report would be discounted if made by an observer less familiar with the species than Puleston but is considered valid because of his experience with the species.

It may be noted that all observations were of birds flying, none feeding or resting. Their whereabouts between observations remains unknown since several observers searched the Shinnecock area many times in late September and October without success. The number of birds involved is uncertain but was at least four and probably five or more.

Unlike earlier occurrences, these were not clearly associated with a tropical storm. Hurricane Faye originated east of Bermuda and passed close to that island on September 26-27, 1975. It passed about 500 miles southeast of Montauk Point later on September 27 and was about 800 miles east on September 28. Faye was a small hurricane and did not traverse any area where appreciable numbers of Brown Boobies are known to occur. In addition, the time interval between its closest approach to Long Island and the appearance of the first booby seems too short to relate the two events.

Hurricane Gladys could be responsible for some of the later sightings. On September 28, it was located about 450 miles east-northeast of Puerto Rico. It passed 400 miles east of southern Florida but well beyond the Bahamas on October 1. It then passed about 200 miles east of Cape Hatteras and recurved passing about 250 miles southeast of Montauk on October 2. This storm did pass close to known Brown Booby territory and might have brought the birds seen after its passage. However, it was also a small hurricane, apparently did not displace any other species, and was not typical of larger storms which frequently bring numbers of southern species northward.

Thus, the cause of the influx cannot be established nor was much learned of the behavior of the birds observed. However, the observations reported mark this as the most extensive northward movement of Brown Boobies in the western North Atlantic.

Appreciation is expressed to all the observers who generously furnished details of their observations and gave permission for their use.

Schultz Road, Manorville, Long Island, New York 11949

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Gilbert S. Raynor is a research meteorologist at Brookhaven National Laboratory and a graduate of Hofstra College. He became interested in birds early in life and has been a bird-bander since 1938. His interests include the birds of Long Island, the relationship of bird migration to weather, and weight variation in small birds. He is a member of several ornithological and conservation organizations and has published a number of papers. He is past president of Moriches Bay Audubon Society and a director of the Long Island Chapter of Nature Conservancy.

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

Immature Peregrine at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge: Just before noon on 10 August 1975, I was preparing to leave the Tschache Pool parking lot at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge when the movement of a large bird caught my eye through the windshield. I glanced up through the open sunroof and was electrified by a dark, crow-sized, heavy-shouldered silhouette with pointed wings, a long tail, and smooth rowing wingbeats. It was clearly a Peregrine Falcon *(Falco peregrinus),* and most likely an immature from its dark underside.

I alerted two people in the tower (Ed and Pat Bristow of Oceanville, New Jersey), and we walked around a small clump of trees and spotted it perched on a dead poplar branch. We approached to about 200 feet and observed it for several seconds with 7 x 50 binoculars, confirming the identification by its characteristic shape, darkly barred breast and belly, and "Roman helmet" sideburns. I was able to get two indifferent but clearly recognizable photographs with a 300mm lens. The bird flew off toward Mays Point, returned after a few minutes, and immediately took off again and flew out of sight to the northwest side of the pool.

The band and antenna wire worn by Cornell's recent releases were not visible. Although either might have been undetected in the rather poor light, it seems most likely from the date and location that this was a wild-reared young of the year. Since the presently known population of breeding Peregrines is in the Arctic and ordinarily passes through New York State in September and October, this 10 August date is unusual and interesting. Whatever the source, this free-flying youngster was an exciting and encouraging sight.

Later that day, Gary Calabrese saw it perform the spectacular aerial display for which the species is famous. It remained around the area at least through 12 August, probably attracted by the hundreds of migrant shorebirds, and was seen by many observers.

Lt. Col. Morgan V. Jones, Seneca Army Depot, Romulus, New York 14541

Acadian Flycatcher nest in Dutchess County, New York: On 12 June 1973 we found 2 pairs of Acadian Flycatchers *(Empidonax virescens)* singing on territories about 300 m apart, near a wooded ravine overlooking Tenmile River, about 2 miles southwest of Amenia, Dutchess County. We found one nest. It was in a Red Maple *(Acer rubrum)* in fairly dense deciduous woods about 20 m from an opening. The nest was 5.5 m from the ground. It was a flimsy-looking shallow cup suspended hammock-fashion from small twigs near a fork about 2 m from the end of a horizontal branch. Both adults called persistently, and sometimes came within 3 m of us. One adult flew repeatedly to the nest, and occasionally sat in it for a minute or two.

On 28 June the bird appeared to be brooding. When disturbed it left the nest. Both adults flew about, calling, and one gave the *sp-chee* note.

In 1974 Robert Smart reported seeing Acadians at one of the 1973 sites.

On 22 June 1975, the senior author and Ruth Troutman saw 2 adults feeding 2 fledglings that were perched near each other about 1.5 m above the ground in a sapling, 9 m from the 1973 nest site. This appears to be the first record of successful breeding in Dutchess County since 1913 (Griscom 1933, The birds of Dutchess County, New York. *Trans. Linn. Soc. N. Y.*, 3: 121).

The site of the 1973 nesting was erroneously reported *(Kingbird* 23: 212) as "Millbrook." We thank John Bull for helpful comments.

Margaret Coon Bowman – Clinton Corners, New York 12514;
Patricia L. Bunch – Box 300, Chestertown, New York 12817

Whip-poor-will on Long Island in late December: On December 24, 1975, a dead Whip-poor-will was found in the hamlet of Brookhaven, Suffolk Co., on the south shore of Long Island, New York. The bird appeared to be in generally good condition, except that several tail feathers were missing. It had evidently not been dead for very long, as the eyes had not yet begun to shrink. John Bull's *Birds of New York State* (1974, p. 344) gives the latest date on record as November 6, 1945; this specimen is therefore an unprecedented late record.

The specimen has been deposited in the American Museum of Natural History, where it is No. 812033. On dissection, it was found to be a female. There were no fat deposits and the stomach was empty. The bird evidently died of exposure and starvation and the question arises as to how this highly insectivorous species could have survived until late December on Long Island.

Dennis Puleston, Meadow Lane, Brookhaven, New York 11719

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

To the Editors,

I found Buckley's and Gochfeld's remark, "we feel it is abundantly clear that this failure [of the nesting Gull-billed Terns] can be laid squarely on the doorstep of interfering birders" *(Kingbird* 25: 180) an intemperate statement, highly neglectful of the facts.

Following the publication of the article containing this statement Paul Buckley told me that the phrase was composed and included by himself. Mr. Buckley lives in Massachusetts and after his discovery of the site only once revisited South Line Island. I live on Long Island and visited South Line Island June 14, 22, July 5, and 26. Further, I edit the New York Rare Bird Alert and was aware of many birders' visits to nearby North Line Island in search of the Long-billed Curlew.

It was wrong of the authors to state that birders disturbed the birds to "photograph their first N.Y. Gull-bills"—so far as I know, only the authors and myself obtained photographs of the adults, nest, or young. It was equally misleading to say that some birders "inadvertently blundered onto the Gull-bill nest site." I am not aware that this occurred, but I know that a few birders came quite close without ever realizing Gull-billed Terns were present.

In fact, it is a lack of visits to check the Gull-bill nestlings' progress that makes it difficult to accurately determine their success. On July 5 I found the first nest with a day-old chick (the one pictured in figure 4 of the article) and an intact egg, and the second nest contained two intact eggs. On July 8 Tom Burke and Hugh McGuinness found the first nest with "a downy young and an unhatched egg," and the second nest with two eggs. On July 9 Michael Gochfeld found the first nest with only a "2-3 day old young," and the second nest with two eggs. South Line Island was next visited on July 26 by separate parties of birders including Paul Buckley and myself. On that occasion Mr. Buckley found an "intact abandoned Gull-bill egg," but does not state whether the egg was removed, left at the nest site, or whatever. I arrived after Mr. Buckley's party departed and found both Gull-bill nest sites in a state of abandoned decay, both of them empty. A search of the nearby area failed to locate any young. The article implies that the "intact, abandoned" egg was removed from the second nest, while Mr. Buckley told me prior to publication that he wasn't certain which nest it came from. This is understandable, since Mr. Buckley had never seen the second nest site, and only saw the first on June 11. On July 30 Barbara Spencer visited South Line Island and saw two adult Gull-bills with two "almost fledged" young, but she did not approach the young birds closely enough to learn whether they were capable of flight.

From the above, it is fair to state that: 1—an egg apparently disappeared from the first nest between July 8-9. 2—it's not really clear where the "intact,

abandoned" egg was found. 3–the two young observed after July 26 were probably siblings. 4–South Line Island was not visited by birders between July 9–26. The above facts present a confusing story. Had someone familiar with the Gull-bills' nest sites visited South Line Island between July 9-26 the picture might have been clearer.

Mr. Buckley neglects the possibility that the nesting terns were disturbed by non-birders. On one visit I encountered a group of bathers, on another, a group of water skiers using the beach as a staging area. Several of these persons were observed walking toward, but not entering, the tern colony. In my experience, the unknowing (or uncaring) public is one of the chief causes of disturbance to Long Island gull, tern, and skimmer colonies. When dogs are allowed to enter a colony the threat escalates. Boaters often bring their pets along, and allow them to roam islands unleashed. Anthony J. Lauro visited South Line Island about 10 times during the summer in search of shorebirds, but only once visited the Gull-bill nest site with me. He estimated that non-birders were present on at least half his visits, and also saw dogs, but did not see anyone enter the colony during his brief stays. Another overlooked fact was the occurrence of severe thunderstorms and gale force winds at Jones Beach on July 13.

As a co-discoverer of New York's first nesting Chuck-will's-widows I took a proprietary interest in these birds. The Chuck-will's-widows' progress was not checked "almost daily" as Mr. Buckley suggests (see T. H. Davis, 1975. *Kingbird* 25: 132-137). If these birds had not been successful, and I thought this was due to birders' interference, I would have been annoyed. In this case however, the facts do not merit the harsh criticism of the birding community.

Sincerely,
Thomas H. Davis

9446-85 Road, Woodhaven, New York 11421
January 12, 1976

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Letters may be of a general nature as long as they pertain to New York State ornithology, or may be of a specific nature with reference to something that has appeared in *The Kingbird*. The editors reserve the right *not* to accept a letter for publication, or to edit a letter in accordance with space requirements. All letters received will be acknowledged. Your participation is invited.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FALL SEASON

ROBERT W. SMART

Almost all of the regional editors were in complete agreement about the weather during the season, but they did not agree as to the results of this weather. September was uniformly cold and wet whereas October and November received nothing but praise. In fact, November, a month to which most birders do not look forward with eager anticipation, made up for the wretched September. Please notice particularly the results of the passage of the minor tropical storm Eloise in late September. Some previously good shorebird habitats were ruined, while some were produced. The cold, wet period of September wiped out the insect population and produced an early migration, and the small numbers of insectivorous birds that had previously been noted in late summer were even further reduced.

Each fall local birders south of the boreal forests wonder if it will be a "good finch" season. In other words, they are hoping that a poor food crop in the north will drive the winter finches south into their areas. This year produced rather ambivalent results. The food supply to the north was certainly poor. Unfortunately, the cone and acorn crop in our areas was also reported as being low to non-existent. Therefore we have reports of good flocks of finches moving through but not stopping. Perhaps there was good feeding for them further south.

One of the major developments in recent years has been the great increase in interest in hawk-watching. The recently established Hawk Migration Association of North America has developed a program which includes observations on both ridges and coasts. Observers are finding that it is not necessary to go to such famous spots as Mt. Tom, Raccoon Ridge, or Hawk Mountain in order to witness a spectacular hawk flight. Notice the various local hawk reports in addition to the usual good numbers from Hook Mountain and Dutchess Hill. It is unfortunate that much of the action during the Broad-wing flight occurred to the east of us in Connecticut where outstanding numbers were reported. Even though some of the local counts may not be in the thousands, the size and direction of these movements are very important in determining the total pattern of the movement. It has become more and more obvious, for example, that the Broad-wing flocks are not restricted to the ridges but move on a wide front

across the countryside. The membership chairman of the Hawk Migration Association is Mrs. Dorothy Crumb, 3983 Gates Road North, Jamesville, N.Y. 13078. Anyone interested in this type of cooperative bird watching should contact the organization.

In general, the shorebird migration continued to be excellent. Region 2 reported 32 species, Region 3, 23 species, and Region 7, 22 species. North Line Island on Long Island continued the excellence of the summer with very large flocks of waders reported.

Very interesting reports from Regions 1 and 3 point up what may be a wasted possibility in other regions. It is unfortunate that there are always a certain number of migrants killed at TV towers and other tall structures, particularly if these are lighted at night. If there are such towers in your area, please check them regularly. The make-up of these tower kills is often vastly different from the feeding flocks that are observed during the daylight hours. A local museum or educational institution will also be glad to have the specimens for their collections.

Another brief note in passing: in the last Highlights I mentioned the impossibility of segregating the seasons exactly into migration, breeding, etc. Note the very late nesting reports from Region 3. Young birds can be found from February to October, and if crossbills are around, in any month of the year.

As usual, each region has its own share of rarities. I can only ask that you look through them all, for what is rare in one region might be common in another. I was impressed by the reports of Sabine's Gulls from three regions, good numbers of inland jaegers, Yellow Rail and Bewick's Wren from Region 1, Purple Sandpipers from three inland regions, Yellow-throated Warbler from Region 4, Bohemian Waxwings from Region 5, Gray Jay far south in Dutchess County and the wild collection of records from Region 10, including Brown Booby, Black Vulture, and Audubon's Warbler (now only a Yellow-rumped, alas.)

When I first started this job I began the BOTS Award. For anyone who has become a reader since that time, it stands for *Bird of the Season.* Usually there has been one individual of outstanding rarity which was an obvious choice. This season, however, there is one species that has been so widespread and has aroused such interest that it deserves the award—one in which nearly all regions can share. Most observers reported a tremendous influx of Black-capped Chick-

adees and with them came their drawling northern relative. With apologies to the boreal birders in the Adirondacks, the BOTS award goes to the Boreal Chickadee.

Millbrook School, Millbrook, New York 12545

REGION 1 – NIAGARA FRONTIER

VIVIAN MILLS PITZRICK

A rugged, cold, wet Sept. was followed by a warm, dry Oct. and Nov. with very little snow, open water everywhere, resulting in a nicely averaged fall season with temperature 1.9°F (1°C) above normal and precipitation almost average. Bird watching was superb with a succession of shifting weather patterns bringing good avian numbers. In late Sept., tropical storm Eloise grounded many birds along L. Ontario as it passed by on the south (DK).

Abundant food was available from White Ash, Box Elder, Locust, Hickory, Gray-bark Dogwood (to Nov. 1), Chokeberry, Multiflora Rose, Wild Grape, Sumac, Rabbits, Mice and Squirrels. There were no acorns or beechnuts and the cone crop was spotty.

On the bright side were: 1) more Com. Loons; 2) a fair goose flight and better grebe and diving duck counts, especially the Canvasback; 3) another big larid season; 4) promise of good owl-watching for the "few there be that find" them, in conifer plantations on the lake plains (DK); 5) a few more Ruffed Grouse, Ring-necked Pheasants and E. Bluebirds; 6) a good shorebird flight; 7) splendid numbers of Tufted Titmice, Carolina Wrens, Winter Wrens (in Oct.) and Mockingbirds; 8) Red-breasted Nuthatches spreading like gossip; 9) an excellent vireo and warbler migration; and 10) many species lingering late.

On the dark side were: 1) poor numbers of herons; 2) scarcity of most dabbling ducks and Turkeys; 3) few Com. Nighthawks, Chimney Swifts and swallows; 4) a record tower kill, 5) lower Icterid numbers, except Com. Grackles which were nearly double; 6) lower RC count of Vesper, White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows.

Bird-in-the-hand data from banding at Farmersville Station – netted 141 birds Sept. 2-3 and 164 in three waves Sept. 15-27, with most common: 87 Tennessee Warblers, 37 Magnolia Warblers, and 29 each of Black-throated Green Warblers and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks. In Oct., high species were 67 Dark-eyed Juncos, 49 White-throated Sparrows, 34 Black-capped Chickadees, 16 Hermit Thrushes and 16 Ruby-crowned Kinglets. Nov. was brightened by the influx of 231 Evening Grosbeaks, 53 Tree Sparrows and 48 more Dark-eyed Juncos (DC).

Another accurate, though grievous, migration sampling was from tower kills with totals, collected this fall by the Buffalo Museum of Science, the highest in seven years (ARC, *fide Courier Express,* Sept. 24). Below three TV towers in Wales and Colden, s. Erie Co., a record high for a one-day kill on Sept. 24 was 1142 birds of 53 species. The total kill, Sept. 18-27, was 2359 individuals of 61 species, with the highest numbers: 332 Bay-breasted Warblers, 272 Magnolia Warblers, 270 Ovenbirds, 185 Swainson's Thrushes, 175 Blackpoll Warblers, and 121 Black-throated Blue Warblers (ARC, AS, RA, MF. J. Hauser).

Seasonal rarities were: Eared Grebe, Goshawk, Golden Eagle, Bald Eagle, Yellow Rail, Long-billed Dowitcher, Western Sandpiper, Hudsonian Godwit, Red and Northern Phalaropes, Parasitic Jaeger, Sabine's Gull, Western Kingbird, Boreal Chickadee, Bewick's Wren,

Worm-eating Warbler, Pine Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Dickcissel and House Finch. (Late reported summer rarities were: Cinnamon Teal, American Avocet, Barn Owl and Yellow-headed Blackbird).

Abbreviations: GMA or WMA–Game or Wildlife Management Area; NP–Nature Preserve; NWR–National Wildlife Refuge; RC–Regional Census Oct. 12 (compiled by PSc and RSc); Tower kill–Casualty at TV tower(s), s. Erie Co. (ARC+).

Contributors: Robert Andrle, Elizabeth Brooks, Doris Burton, Lou Burton, Donald Clark, Jane Clark, Stephen Eaton, David Freeland, Helen Graves, Ken Johnson (Weather Data, Wellsville Water and Light), Rhea Keople, Robert Keople, Douglas Kibbe, Clarence Klingensmith, Michael Pitzrick, Raymond Pitzrick, Vivian Pitzrick, Robert Sundell, James Van Scoy, Regina Van Scoy. Observers: Patricia Andrle, Harold Axtell, Rachel Axtell (RaA), Thomas Bourne, Richard Byron, Arthur R. Clark (ARC), Lorry Chapman, Dorothy Danner, Frances DeGroff, Flora Elderkin, John Forness, Mary Forness (MFr), Marcya Foster, Paul Hess, Harriette Klabunde, Walter Klabunde, Erma Larson, Alice McKale, Willard McKale, Harold Mitchell, John Morse, Katherine Palmer, William Rebovich, Frances Rew, Arthur Schaffner, Pauline Schwartz (PSc), Robert Schwartz (RSc), Ann Scott (AnS), Joseph Thill, Robert Wagner, David Wilcove, Larry Wilson.

LOONS–DUCKS: 5 Red-throated Loons at Olcott (DF) and one on the Niagara R. (FR) appeared Nov. 23. A Red-necked Grebe stopped near Hamburg Oct. 31 and Nov. 6 (TB) and 1 to 2 were at Cuba L. (new area) Nov. 9-13 (AnS). 400 Horned Grebe concentrated at Chautauqua L. Nov. 18 (RS). Single **EARED GREBES** were at Athol Springs Nov. 6 (TB) and at Dunkirk Harbor Nov. 16, 22 (RA+). Double-crested Cormorants appeared at Times Beach Oct. 21 (RA, RB), 2 at Dunkirk Harbor Nov. 2 (FR, Buck) and one at Bay View Nov. 24 (TB). Only 2 Great Egrets were seen at Iroquois NWR Sept. 4, 26 (Howard, JM), and 16 Black-crowned Night Herons were noted in 3 areas. A Least Bittern paused at Iroquois NWR Sept. 14 (AM, WM) and 2 Am. Bitterns were on the RC. Most Whistling Swans passed us by, giving a max. 143 at Chautauqua L. Nov. 28 (FE, RS). A fine Brant flight peaked at 643 at Olcott Oct. 30 (PA, RA) and 7 Snow Geese were noted in 3 locations.

It was a stingy flight of all dabbling ducks except Gadwall with max. 132 at Niagara Falls Oct. 26 (HA) and N. Shoveler with 8 on RC (same as '74). However, 2000 Canvasbacks were reported at Niagara Falls Oct. 26 (HA), the Oldsquaw flight was good, and all three scoters were well documented. A King Eider was seen at Niagara Falls Gorge Nov. 23 (FR+). Scarce elsewhere, Ruddy Ducks centered at Chautauqua L. with 220 on Nov. 11 (RS). Of the mergansers, there was only a smattering of Hooded and Common but a max. 867 Red-breasted at Olcott Oct. 30 (RA).

HAWKS–ALCIDS: A Turkey Vulture lingered at Lancaster until Nov. 25 (DF). A **GOSHAWK** was "calling near a nest site" at Ten-mile, Cattaraugus Co. Oct. 26 (SE), and one to two appeared at Belmont several times all season (DB, LB). Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks were well reported. Red-shouldered Hawks were few but one appeared at Cuba L., a new area, Nov. 18, 24 (AnS). The max. Broad-winged Hawk count was 8 at Newstead Sept. 13 (DF) and 4 Rough-legged Hawks were seen at three locations. There was a **GOLDEN EAGLE** at Times Beach Oct. 31 (RA, ARC, RB) and an imm. Bald Eagle at Iroquois NWR and Tonawanda GMA Sept. 17-28 (JM, Olsen). The Marsh Hawk and Osprey seem to be holding their own, but there were only 78 Am. Kestrel on the RC (down 1/4 from last year).

A Ruffed Grouse drumming at Alfred Nov. 9 (CK) must have been smoothing out his technique for spring. The rare **YELLOW RAIL**, a migrant in the region in '67 and '68, appeared again this year, as a tower casualty in Wales, s. Erie Co. Sept. 25 (RA, ARC, AS). Max. Am. Coot was 3868 at Chautauqua L. Nov. 28 (RS).

A noteworthy max. 25 Am. Golden Plovers appeared at Clarence Sept. 16 (PH+) and a

peak of 25 Black-bellied Plovers was at Times Beach about Oct. 25 (AS, DF+). Single Ruddy Turnstones stopped at Times Beach Oct. 12, 19 (DF, AS, ARC). Worth mentioning this season were: 3 Whimbrel at Elm and Genesee Streets, Buffalo Sept. 10 (DF); a late Lesser Yellowlegs at Times Beach Nov. 8, 9 (DF, RA+); 2 Red Knots at Iroquois NWR Sept. 29 (JM); 3 Purple Sandpipers Nov. 16, and 6 on Nov. 30, at Niagara Falls (Happ, HA); 2 Baird's Sandpipers at Times Beach Sept. 9-13 (PH, Happ); at Iroquois NWR: a **LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER** Nov. 4 (HM) and single Stilt Sandpipers Sept. 10, 29 (Heck, Olsen, JM). Another Stilt Sandpiper was noted at Times Beach Sept. 10 (DF). A rare **WESTERN SANDPIPER** was identified at Times Beach Oct. 16 (DF), and **HUDSONIAN GODWITS** were seen several times: 7 at Times Beach Sept. 27 (MF), two regularly there Oct. 2-25 (PH, ARC+) and at least one at Iroquois NWR Oct. 7 (Olsen, JM+). Sanderlings noted: 1, 2 at Chautauqua L. Sept. 13, 20 (RS) and 2 at Iroquois NWR Nov. 4 (HM). A very early Red Phalarope was at the Peace Bridge Sept. 22 (HA) and another spent late Oct. at Times Beach (RA+). 17 Northern Phalaropes were reported from 4 areas, including the 3 at Times Beach Oct. 16 (very late) (DF).

A Parasitic Jaeger appeared at Wilson Oct. 19, 4 were seen at Olcott Oct. 19 with 2 still there Oct. 30, and 2 were noted at Hamburg Nov. 1 (PA, RA). One to 2 each of Glaucous, Iceland *(glaucoides)* and Iceland *(kumlieni)* Gulls arrived at Niagara R. area Nov. 15 (AS, RA+). 78 Great Black-backed Gulls were on the RC. A Franklin's Gull found its way to Ashville Bay, Chautauqua L. Sept. 13 (RS). 10,000 Bonaparte's Gulls congregated at the Peace Bridge Sept. 22-29 (HA), and Little Gulls reached a max. 21 (!) at Times Beach Sept. 20 (RA+). Rare statewide, an imm. **SABINE'S GULL** was found at the Peace Bridge Sept. 22 (HA, RA+).

PIGEONS–WOODPECKERS: The first of 5 Snowy Owls seen in 4 areas, arrived at Niagara Falls Nov. 17 (HK, WK). Long-eared Owls were noted: near Lyndonville, two Oct. 30 and five Nov. 21; and near Barker, Max. six Oct. 30, 31 and at least nine Nov. 21 (DK). Only reports of Short-eared Owls were: one at Hamburg Nov. 3 (TB) and 5 at Youngstown Nov. 23 (HK, WK). A Red-bellied Woodpecker appeared in Angelica, a new area, Nov. 1-30 (D. Foreman).

FLYCATCHERS–STARLINGS: A **WESTERN KINGBIRD** was reported from Bay View near Hamburg Sept. 7 (RA+). Between Sept. 18-27, three Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were banded at Farmersville Sta. (DC) and 15 were tower killed. Single Olive-sided Flycatchers lingered late: at N. Evans Sept. 23 (Empric) and at Belmont Sept. 30 (LB). A rare **BOREAL CHICKADEE** was banded at Farmersville Sta. Oct. 20 (DC) and another appeared regularly at Keoples' feeder, Cuba, Oct. 10-Nov. 30 (RK, RhK, Marshall+). Two **BEWICK'S WRENS**, exceptionally rare, came to the Ayers' feeder, Cuba, Nov. 2-30 (A, J Ayers, JF, MFr, RK). The only Long-billed Marsh Wrens noted were 2 tower killed Sept. 23-24 and one at Tifft Farm NP Nov. 9 (DF). A late Swainson's Thrush was banded at Alfred Oct. 24 (EB). A single Blue-gray Gnatcatcher appeared at Times Beach Sept. 9, 10 (PH, Happ, DF). The max. flock of Water Pipits was 45 at Alfred Nov. 5 (EB). 8 N. Shrikes were noted in 7 areas, and it looks better for the Loggerhead Shrike with singles appearing at Times Beach Sept. 1 (RA, JT+), at Alfred Oct. 2 (LC) and very late: one at Hinsdale Nov. 15 (JF, MFr) and another on Ten-mile Rd., Cattaraugus Co. Nov. 16 (SE).

VIREOS–WARBLERS: A good Vireo flight showed more than usual Yellow-throated, a late Red-eyed, banded at Farmersville Sta. Oct. 20 (DC), and higher counts of Philadelphia, including 55 tower killed Sept. 18-27, with 25 of these from a single night's kill Sept. 24.

Noteworthy Warblers include: a late Black-and-white Warbler at Lewiston Oct. 22 (WK); single **WORM-EATING WARBLERS** at the Lakeside Cem., Hamburg, Sept. 8 (TB) and at Forest Lawn, Buffalo, Sept. 28 (McMichael); 4 Orange-crowned Warblers in 4 areas; 2 N. Parulas at the Tifft Farm NP Sept. 5, 17 (DW, Goodman, TB) and 11 tower killed Sept. 23 and 24; a late Yellow Warbler tower killed Sept. 24; a late Black-throated Blue Warbler at

Lewiston Oct. 30 (HK, WK); Regional max. 200 Yellow-rumped Warblers in Ward Oct. 19 (DB, LB); single late Bay-breasted Warblers at Buckhorn Is. State Pk. Oct. 26 (FR) and at Tifft Farm NP Nov. 9 (DF); **PINE WARBLERS**, tower killed, 2 in Wales and 3 in Colden, Sept. 24; a **KENTUCKY WARBLER** tower killed in Wales Sept. 24; and Connecticut Warblers: 3 tower killed Sept. 24 plus 4 others noted in 3 areas, 2 of which were early at Clarence Ctr. Sept. 7 (DF).

WEAVERS–SPARROWS: Staying late were a N. Oriole at Buffalo Nov. 9 (Kikta+) and 2 different Scarlet Tanagers at Hamburg Oct. 14, 21 (MF). Three **DICKCISSELS** appeared daily at a Cuba feeder Oct. 7-17 (RK, RhK). Other accents of the season were: large numbers of Evening Grosbeaks and Purple Finches; 18 **HOUSE FINCHES** on the RC and up to 18 noted regularly at Cheektowaga during Sept. and Oct. (RSc, PSc); Pine Grosbeaks: 12, 10 at Alfred Nov. 6, 9 (EB, LB) and 10 at Grand Island Nov. 9 (HK, WK); 2 Com. Redpoll at Orchard Park Nov. 25 (Saville); a max. 30 Pine Siskins in Almond Oct. 26 (DB, LB); crossbill (species?) flocks of at least 10 over Alfred Nov. 1-30 (CK); and Red Crossbills: 6 (early) at E. Amherst Nov. 3 (DF), 8 at Alfred Nov. 5 (EB) and 3 found dead at Friendship Nov. 16 (Compton).

A Grasshopper Sparrow was tower killed in Wales Sept. 24. In addition to the 8 Fox Sparrows on the RC, one was noted in Almond Oct. 28 (J, L. Gibson). Several Lincoln's Sparrows were noted: 4 on the RC, 2 tower killed in Colden, Sept. 24, 27, one at Times Beach Sept. 10 (Happ) and one banded at Farmersville Sta. Sept. 26 (DC). The first Snow Buntings were noticed in several locations Oct. 30.

Addendum: In the Spring 1975 *Kingbird*, credit for the late **PRAIRIE WARBLER** at Alfred May 14 goes to CK. Noteworthy reports from the Summer 1975 season include: a **CINNAMON TEAL** at Iroquois NWR Aug. 25 (WR, Carroll); two **AM. AVOCETS** at Times Beach Aug. 26 (DF, RA+); a wide-eyed Barn Owl staring down at a rain-soaked startled observer changing clothes in a barn near Barker Aug. 20 (DK); and a **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD** at Tonawanda GMA Aug. 23 (WR, Carroll). Also, the 1975 Breeding Bird Survey (Fish and Wildlife Service) tallied 117 species, highest ever, with Virginia Rail, Carolina Wren and Mockingbird, new. Absent were Pied-billed Grebe, Am. Bittern, Turkey Vulture and Brown Creeper. Increasing were House Wren, Red-eyed Vireo, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak and Indigo Bunting, while only the E. Meadowlark showed a downward trend (WK).

Please send reports for each month by the 5th of the following month.

Amity Lake, Belmont, New York 14813

REGION TWO – GENESEE

RICHARD O'HARA

We have enjoyed a long, warm, dry fall season which produced good variety and quite a few really unusual records. The migration was early, especially the insect-eating species, coinciding with very early autumn foliage color and leaf dropping. On the other hand, many species lingered late as food remained plentiful and snow fall was very light.

The movement of waterfowl was somewhat better than last year, especially among divers. Geese went through early and rapidly but most ducks are still here in good numbers as all water remains open as of Dec. 1. After a slow start this summer, shorebirds made an excellent showing, largely due to the fine habitat available at Northrup Creek. Thirty-two species

were reported and many were in good numbers and lingered for extended stays.

Northern visitors also began to appear rather early but some dropped off just as rapidly. Rough-legged Hawks and Northern Shrikes are still present in fairly good numbers. Snowy Owls are scarce to date, and northern finches vary widely by species so far but in general have occurred in above average numbers.

Rarities: Snowy Egret, Snow Goose, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Hudsonian Godwit, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Purple Sandpiper, American Avocet, Pomarine Jaeger, Parasitic Jaeger, Western Kingbird, Orange-crowned Warbler, Connecticut Warbler.

Abbreviations: Braddocks Bay–BB; Bristol Hills–BH; Conesus Lake–CL; Durand Park–DP; Hamlin Beach–HB; Honeoye Lake–HL; Irondequoit Bay Outlet–IBO; Long Pond–LP; Mendon Ponds–MP; Northrup Creek–NC; Oklahoma Beach–OB; Point Breeze–PB; Sodus Bay–SB; west lakeshore–WL.

Observers: JCl–Julie Claffey; JC–John Coopman; F&RD–Frank & Robert Dobson; KD–Kay Doris; JE–Joan Esley; A&JF–Arlene & John Foster; RL–Ray Ladwig; DL–David Linehan; J&WCL–Jim & Walter Listman; WL–Warren Lloyd; Mob–Many Observers; B&EM–Barb & Erwin Molyneaux; RO–Richard O'Hara; CP–Chip Perrigo; JR–J. Richardson; RBA–Rochester Birding Association; JS–Jeanne Shelly; DS–Durwood Skiff; R&SS–Robert & Sue Spahn; MAS–Mary Ann Sunderlin; WS–William Symonds; DM&TT–David, Mike & Tom Tetlow; JT–Joseph Taylor; ST–Steve Taylor; RT–Robert Thoman; PW–Paul Weld.

LOONS–DUCKS: Common Loon peak count 24, HB Oct. 24 (low). High flying birds go straight south off Lake Ontario–going where? Red-throated Loon max. 3, HB Nov. 21 (WS). No Red-necked Grebes noted. Horned Grebe–good flight–max. 500 Sept. 29, HB, (CP). The only Eared Grebe was at IBO Nov. 23 (WL&MS). Double-crested Cormorant–8 reports, more than usual.

An immature **SNOWY EGRET** was at BB Sept. 6, 7 (Mob). The only fall Cattle Egret was a very late bird Nov. 5, 6 near Hemlock Lake (JT). A good count of 44 Whistling Swans was made at SB Nov. 15 (DM&TT). Canada Goose max. 3,000–low. Brant max. 1,700 Oct. 19 (JCl). **SNOW GOOSE** max. 65, HL Oct. 19 (B&EM) is unusual for the area.

Among the best waterfowl reports are the following: Gadwall 15 WL Oct. 15 (CP); Pintail 149, SB Oct. 18 (RBA); Blue-winged Teal 250 WL Oct. 14 (CP); American Wigeon 175, BB Oct. 3 (SS); Wood Duck 30, SB Oct. 21 (TT); Redhead 150 HL Nov. 13 (J. Street); Ring-necked Duck 100 HL Nov. 13 (J. Street); Canvasback 600 CL Nov. 16 (J&WCL); Com. Goldeneye 1, BB Sept. 4 (WCL), early; Oldsquaw 500 OB Nov. 23 (WCL&MAS); White-winged Scoter 700 HB Oct. 19 (RT); Surf Scoter 50 SB Oct. 18 (RBA); Black Scoter 25 HB Oct. 19 (JS); Ruddy Duck 4 Nov. 2 WL (F&RD); Hooded Merganser 46 WL Nov. 23 (F&RD).

HAWKS–ALCIDS: Goshawk, 5 reports; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 4 reports; Cooper's Hawk, 3 reports; Rough-legged Hawk max. 6; **BALD EAGLE** 1 Hemlock Lake Oct. 18 (A&JF). Osprey–amazing 40 plus fishing at marsh near Leroy! mid Sept. unprecedented report (fide Region 1 editor). **PEREGRINE FALCON** 1, Walworth Nov. 2 (DS); **MERLIN** 1 BB Oct. 6, 7 (CP&WCL).

Ruffed Grouse 5 reports, one at Powder Mill Park Nov. 15 (SR) is unusual location. American Coot, very heavy flight, max. 305 SB Oct. 18 (Mob).

Unusual for dates, numbers or species among a flood of shorebirds records are the following: Am. Golden Plover 80, Rush Sept. 24 (RT); Hudsonian Godwit max. 8 Sept. 23-Oct. 8 NC (JS *et al.*); Spotted Sandpiper 1 BB Oct. 25–late (RO&JC); Long-billed Dowitcher 7, NC Oct. 6 (CP); Red Knot 4 BB Sept. 6 (I&KJ); White-rumped Sandpiper 5 NC Sept. 28 (R&SS); **BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER** 1, NC Sept. 1, 2 (IJ *et al.*); Western Sandpiper 5 NC Nov. 4 (KD *et al.*); **PURPLE SANDPIPER** 1, Charlotte Nov. 15 (CP); Stilt

Sandpiper 16 NC Sept. 24 (JS); **AMERICAN AVOCET** 1 NC Sept. 6 (RBA); Northern Phalarope 1 NC Sept. 17 (R&SS). The only reports of jaegers are of one **POMARINE** BB Oct. 4 (CP) and one **PARASITIC** Oct. 16 HB (CP). White-winged gulls are unreported to date. The best count so far on Bonaparte's Gulls is 1800 passing IBO Nov. 14 (ST); Little Gull 8 reports–max. 3. Forster's Tern–best count ever was 10 birds Sept. 4 IBO (ST)–many reports of 4-6 birds. Common Tern–max. 65, somewhat improved.

PIGEONS–WOODPECKERS: Three Snowy Owls were noted, the first on Nov. 8 (RL). Single Short-eared and Saw-whet Owls occurred, the latter a dead bird on Oct. 25 (DL). The last nighthawk was seen Oct. 5 (TT). A rather late sapsucker was still in DP on Nov. 16 (MAS&WCL).

FLYCATCHERS–STARLINGS: The third Region Two **WESTERN KINGBIRD** ever was found by M&TT and seen by Mob in Macedon Sept. 20. A late Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was noted on Sept. 28 at BB (R&SS). More Olive-sided Flycatchers than usual were reported, a total of 5. A count of 1,500 Tree Swallows was made at WL on Sept. 21 (RBA) and 5 late Purple Martins were still at LP on Oct. 12 (RT). A large irruption of Black-capped Chickadees occurred on WL in late October–peak count was 2,280 on the 15th at BB (JS).

A roost of 3,000 Am. Robins in MP Nov. 11 (JF) is noteworthy as is the count of 27 E. Bluebirds on Oct. 5 BH (RBA). Best count of Water Pipit this fall was 180 in Perinton (TT). The first Northern Shrike was seen on Oct. 30 (JS) while 7 was the high count on Nov. 30 WL (F&RD). A Starling roost at MP was estimated at 100,000 Nov. 11 (J&AF) and another was in Chili–75,000 Nov. 5 (JS).

VIREOS–WARBLERS: These birds lingered late into October after a heavy early flight. They apparently enjoyed good breeding success this summer. Unusual records include: Black-and-white Warbler Nov. 1 (late) DP (PW), **ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER** 1 Sept. 26 (JCl), Pine Warbler Oct. 3 (late) at Allen's Creek (RT), **CONNECTICUT WARBLER**–two Oct. reports. A total of 19 species of warblers in October indicates how late they stayed. A Palm Warbler was still at PB on Nov. 11 (J&WCL). A report of 2 Prothonotary Warblers in early October seems extremely late . . . but this year who knows?

WEAVERS–SPARROWS: It was a good fall for several species of northern finches although not for all species, and the flight showed signs of dropping off after mid-November. Evening Grosbeak peaked at 150 in HP Nov. 17 (WS). Purple Finches were present in small numbers and while House Finches spread to one or two new areas they are not yet regular or common in this region. Pine Grosbeaks were found first on Oct. 25 at HP (R&SS). The first Redpoll was noted in Chili Nov. 8 (JS) while Red Crossbills appeared on Oct. 17 HP (CP). A high count of 125 was made there on Nov. 6 (JCl *et. al.*). The only White-winged Crossbills were 3 on Nov. 22 in DP (RBA).

Late sparrows include Savannah Nov. 2 NC (R&RD) and a singing Lincoln's Nov. 12 in Webster (DS). No longspurs were reported but Snow Buntings were widely noted after mid-October–best counts were 300 in Webster Nov. 9 (DS) and 500 on WL Oct. 31 (JE).

265 Carling Rd., Rochester, New York 14610

REGION 3 – FINGER LAKES

W. E. BENNING

Since the last Region 3 report covered only up to August 15, this report will cover from August 15 thru November 30. Hereafter, reports will conform to the new three month period.

August temperatures were normal with heavy rains in the last week. September was more like November with cloudy, dark, dreary days, a minimum of sunshine and low daytime temperatures. The remnants of Hurricane Eloise brought heavy rains September 24-26. October was mild and warm. Temperatures averaged 2 degrees F (1°C) above normal. While the northern part of the region escaped a killing frost until October 27, much of it was hit on October 3. Rainfall was normal. November brought the sunshine we missed in September. The temperature averaged 6 degrees F (3.3°C) above normal for the warmest November, at Ithaca, since 1948.

The TV tower kill at Elmira was relatively light with two exceptions. On September 18 and 19, 800 birds of 40 species were picked up. Among these were 16 Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, 30 Swainson's Thrushes, 48 Red-eyed and 7 Philadelphia Vireos, 190 Bay-breasted and 110 Magnolia Warblers, 80 Ovenbirds, 2 Mourning Warblers, a Yellow-breasted Chat and 3 Lincoln's Sparrows. The other disastrous day was September 20 when 100 birds of 20 species, largely warblers but including a Virginia Rail, were killed.

The lowered water levels at Montezuma Refuge, which had supplied good shorebird habitat during the summer, continued into the fall. From August 23 thru September 3 the shorebirding was excellent. At least 23 species were present including the rare Buff-breasted Sandpiper and a record number of phalaropes with 3 Wilson's and 17 Northerns present on September 1. The heavy rains of Eloise inundated the mudflats but produced pools in the field by the headquarters. For several days up to 20 Hudsonian Godwits, plus other more common shorebirds, fed there. The same rains flooded parts of Stewart Park in Ithaca attracting many gulls and shorebirds including a Franklin's Gull and 3 Red Phalaropes.

Whatever the reason, there were several late nesting reports. A House Wren was still feeding young in a birdhouse on Reeder's Creek, Seneca Co. at the end of August. Nearly fledged young were found in a Carolina Wren's nest in a hanging porch box at Perry's Point, Seneca Lake on October 2. Three mild winters in succession have given the Carolina Wren an opportunity to build up all over the region. At Horseheads a third brood of Eastern Bluebirds was about to leave the nest on September 23 and a fledgling Cardinal was being fed at Elmira on the same day.

Several unusual concentrations of birds were noted. Ring-billed Gulls at the Waterloo Dump and on the plowed fields about Penn Yan were in unusually large numbers in both cases. On November 5 there were 1000 Common Crows on the fields at Dutch Hill, Elmira. Flocks of 2000 plus Starlings were observed on fields near Clyde, Union Springs, and at a roost at the Seneca Army Depot.

In general the migration seemed a little early. Lerch, in his banding operations at Penn Yan, noted warblers moving thru early.

Rarities: Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Red Phalarope, Franklin's Gull, Fish Crow, Boreal Chickadee.

Abbreviations: Cay–Cayuga; MNWR–Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; SAD–Seneca Army Depot; Sen–Seneca; Tomp–Tompkins, * (starred)–verifying report filed.

Compilers and contributors: W. E. Benning, Paul DuBowy, James Gibson, Robert Gustafson (MNWR), Bernice Hilfiker, Morgan Jones (SAD), Richard and Sally Jorgensen, Elaine Kibbe (Ithaca), Malcolm Lerch (Penn Yan), Robert and Lisa Lewis, Dorothy McIlroy, Thomas Riley, Jeffery Walters, Mary Welles (Elmira).

LOONS–DUCKS: Common Loon: 45 Cay. L. at Aurora Nov. 2 (PD, DM); 8 lb. bird killed at Elmira TV tower Nov. 17 (MW). Double-crested Cormorant: 1 Canoga Nov. 17. Cattle Egret: 2 Reeder's Creek Sen. Co. Oct. 27 (MJ). Great Egret: 12 MNWR Sept. 26. Black-crowned Night Heron: 1 MNWR Nov. 8 (M. Menuhin). Least Bittern: 1 SAD mid-Sept.; 1 MNWR Oct. 13. American Bittern: 30 MNWR Sept. 1 (RG). Whistling Swan: 1 MNWR Oct. 30. Canada Goose: 50 Elmira Aug. 31 early (MW). Brant: up to 500 Stewart

Park Ithaca late Oct. Snow Goose: 250 Sen. L. Oct. 19 (BH); 100 MNWR Oct. 30.

The max. duck populations at MNWR were as follows: Mallard: 18,000 Oct. 16; Black: 5,000 Oct. 16; Gadwall: 2,000 Oct. 16; Pintail: 3,000 Oct. 23; Green-winged Teal: 8,000 Oct. 16; Blue-winged Teal 5,000 Sept. 30; Am. Wigeon: 11,000 Oct. 16; N. Shoveler: 750 Oct. 16; Wood Duck: 3,000 Oct. 1; Redhead: 2,000 Nov. 8; Ring-necked Duck: 20 Oct. 20; Canvasback: 40 Nov. 8; Lesser Scaup: 500 Nov. 8; Bufflehead: 20 Nov. 26; Ruddy Duck: 80 Oct. 30; Am. Goldeneye: none; Hooded Merganser: 200 Nov. 17; Common Merganser: 150 Nov. 29.

Small numbers of all diving ducks except Oldsquaw reported from the lakes in the region. White-winged Scoter: 100 Sen. L. Nov. 9 (BH). Surf Scoter: 1-3 birds reported from Cay. and Sen. L. Black Scoter: 25 Cay. L. Nov. 18 (J. Duncan); female Sen. L. Nov. 23-30. Red-breasted Merganser: 1 Cay. L. Nov. 2 only report.

HAWKS–ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: more than the usual number of Oct. reports; injured bird found at Lab. of Ornithology Nov. 13; 1 Elmira Nov. 18 (MW). Goshawk: 1 Elmira Oct.-Nov.; 1 Sen. Falls late Nov. Sharp-shinned Hawk: Nov. reports from SAD, Phelps, Niles, Elmira. Cooper's Hawk: 6 reports widely scattered including an immature killed striking a window in Elmira. Red-shouldered Hawk: Ithaca Sept.-Oct. (JG); 1-2 per week after Nov. 15 SAD. Broad-winged Hawk: 4 Long Point Sept. 28 (RLL). Rough-legged Hawk: 1 dark phase Oct. 10 (TR); 8 widely scattered Nov. reports. Bald Eagle: immature MNWR Aug.-Sept. Marsh Hawk: sightings at 8 localities; max. 3 SAD. Osprey: 1-2 MNWR thru Oct. **PEREGRINE FALCON:** immature MNWR Aug. 10 (MJ *et al.*)*; adult Aug. 17 MNWR (K. Coyle *et al.*); immature Clifton Springs Nov. 22 (P. Trail). **MERLIN:** singles SAD Aug. 30 and Sept. 21 (MJ)*. Turkey: Singles several times in Nov. in Elmira. Common Gallinule: 150 MNWR Aug. 15. Am. Coot: 6,000 MNWR Nov. 20 (RG).

All shorebird records are from MNWR unless otherwise noted. Semipalmated Plover: max. 40 Aug. 12. Killdeer: 75 Aug. 30; 60-70 Ithaca Oct. 2. Am. Golden Plover: 1-2 Aug. 27-Sept. 28. Black-bellied Plover: max. 20 Sept. 23; 5 Horseheads Sept. 28. Ruddy Turnstone: 1-3 Aug. 17-Sept. 4. Am. Woodcock: only 3 reports. Com. Snipe: scarce. Spotted Sandpiper: 8 Aug. 25. Solitary Sandpiper: thru Aug. 27. Greater Yellowlegs: max. 400 Sept. 15. Lesser Yellowlegs: 300 Sept. 15. Red Knot: up to 6 Aug. 26-Sept. 6. Pectoral Sandpiper: max. 150 Aug. 31; 30 Ithaca Sept. 27-29. White-rumped Sandpiper: 4 Sept. 3; 1-3 Sept. 28-30. Baird's Sandpiper: up to 10 Aug. 23-27. Least Sandpiper: max. 50 Aug. 15. Dunlin: few, max. 11. Short-billed Dowitcher: max. 18. Long-billed Dowitcher: 2-9 and probably more of this difficult to distinguish species present Aug. 28-Nov. 9 (WB, H. Axtell, RLL *et al.*)*. Stilt Sandpiper: max. 16 Aug. 17. Semipalmated Sandpiper: max. 1,200 Aug. 15. **BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER:** 1-3 Aug. 23-27 (N. Moon *et al.*). Hudsonian Godwit: singles Aug. 31, Sept. 19-20 and Oct. 25; up to 20 Sept. 28-Oct. 2; 10 Sept. 27. Sanderling: 2 Aug. 24-Sept. 2. **RED PHALAROPE:** 3 Stewart Park Sept. 27 (K. Kaufmann, E. Cook, RLL, JG)*. Wilson's Phalarope: max. 4 thru Sept. 10. Northern Phalarope: max. 17 thru Sept. 23; 1 Ithaca Sept. 27.

FRANKLIN'S GULL: 1 Ithaca Sept. 27 (RLL, M. Braun)*. Bonaparte's Gull: 2 Ithaca Sept. 27. Caspian Tern: 1-2 MNWR Aug. 26-Sept. 28.

PIGEONS–WOODPECKERS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 MNWR Oct. 11; 1 Reeder's Creek Aug. 19. Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 Monkey Run Sept. 29; 1 MNWR Oct. 12. Snowy Owl: singles at MNWR, north end Cay. L., Interlaken all in Nov. Long-eared Owl: 1 Ithaca Nov. 6 (S. Sabo). Short-eared Owl: 3 Interlaken Nov. 16; few in SAD area. Common Nighthawk: numerous migrating flocks noted at MNWR, Penn Yan, Ithaca, Elmira, Aug. 24-Sept. 27.

FLYCATCHERS–STARLINGS: Eastern Kingbird: 1 Ovid Nov. 3 very late (W. Warne). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 20 banded Penn Yan, high (ML); 16 killed TV tower Elmira. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 banded Penn Yan Aug. 19 (ML). 1 Ithaca Sept. 9 (JG)*. **FISH**

CROW: the bird resident in Ithaca for 18 months was last heard Sept. 16 (L. Hahn). **BOREAL CHICKADEE:** 1-4 Union Springs Nov. 1 thru (PB, EK)*; 3 Ithaca Game Farm Rd. Nov. 12 and 2 Monkey Run; 2 S. Danby (DM). Short-billed Marsh Wren: 1 MNWR Aug. 25 (JG); 1 MNWR Sept. 7 (S. Sabo). Am. Robin: heavy movement MNWR Oct. 3 and Niles Oct. 19. Swainson's Thrush: 159 banded Penn Yan (ML). Gray-cheeked Thrush: 1 MNWR Oct. 16 (WB); 4 Elmira TV tower kill Sept. 24. E. Bluebird: reported from Clyde, MNWR, SAD, Penn Yan, Guyanoga Valley, Horseheads. Kinglets: good movement of both species. Water Pipit: max. 75 King Ferry Nov. 15. Northern Shrike: 1 New Hope Oct. 30; 1 Ithaca Oct. 17.

VIREOS–WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: 1 singing W. Danby Oct. 22; 1 Turkey Hill both late. Philadelphia Vireo: 14 banded Penn Yan (ML); 2 Ithaca Oct. 4; 7 Elmira TV tower kill. Good warbler migration with the following species sighted: Black-and-white, Golden-winged, 1 Elmira TV tower kill. Tennessee: 68 banded Penn Yan. Orange-crowned: 1 banded Penn Yan Oct. 4; 1 Monkey Run Oct. 8. Nashville. N. Parula. Yellow. Magnolia: 157 banded Penn Yan. Cape May. Black-throated Blue. Yellow-rumped. Black-throated Green. Blackburnian. Chestnut-sided. Bay-breasted: 129 banded Penn Yan. Blackpoll. Prairie: 1 Ithaca Sept. 14 (S. Sabo). Palm. Ovenbird. Connecticut: 1 Reeder's Creek Aug. 29 (BH) no confirming details; 1 Ithaca Sept. 8 (J. Maugans fide EK). Mourning. Com. Yellowthroat: scarce. Yellow-breasted Chat. Wilson's. Canada. Am. Redstart: scarce.

WEAVERS–SPARROWS: N. Oriole: at Penn Yan ML had 25 in his mist nets at one time Aug. 11; male Stewart Park Nov. 7 very late (JG). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 1 Ithaca Nov. 3-10 late (K. Rosenberg). Evening Grosbeak: widespread reports with first Ithaca Sept. 13. Purple Finch: widespread reports of small numbers. House Finch: up to 45 at feeder in Ithaca; 2 males and a female at feeder for first Geneva record (K. Bond). Pine Grosbeak: 1 Ithaca Nov. 7; female Elmira Nov. 21. Com. Redpoll: few scattered individuals. Pine Siskin: Ithaca Sept. 26 (EK); 65 Niles Nov. 11. Crossbills: none.

Sharp-tailed Sparrow: 1 MNWR Oct. 19 no details (S. Sabo). Vesper Sparrow: only 2 sightings. Tree Sparrow: 1 Clifton Springs Oct. 18 (JW); widespread in small groups thereafter. White-crowned Sparrow: Oct. 3-Nov. 28 good numbers; some mentioned many immatures. White-throated Sparrow: first Ithaca Aug. 20 early; heavy movements MNWR Oct. 10 and Niles Oct. 19. Fox Sparrow: 2 Turkey Hill Oct. 28; 2 Union Springs Nov. 1; singing Elmira Nov. 2. Lincoln's Sparrow: 3 Elmira TV tower kill Sept. 18; 2 Clyde Oct. 4; 2 Niles Oct. 25. Snow Bunting: first MNWR Oct. 20; scattered reports of small numbers; 100 Elmira Nov. 22.

R. D. 2, Clyde, New York 14433

REGION 4 – SUSQUEHANNA

ELIZABETH WASHBURN for LESLIE BEMONT

September was somewhat cooler and considerably wetter than normal. October generally lived up to its reputation as a perfect month weatherwise. November outdid itself with temperatures averaging 7-8°F (4-4.5°C) above normal, breaking records from the 3rd through 10th with a high of 72°F (22°C) on the 7th; rainfall was slightly below normal and snowfall about half the usual amount. However, the unseasonable warmth seems to have had little effect on bird activities, as the main migrations were long since past and it was still early for the influx of northern birds. Unusual species for the period were: Red-throated Loon, Baird's Sandpiper, Barred Owl, Boreal Chickadee and last but not least, a Yellow-throated Warbler.

Observers: Cutler and Jeannette Baldwin–(C,JB); Leslie Bemont; Michael Bennett (MB); R. Bennett (RB); David Caganek (DC); Mildred Clark, Gail and Warren Corderman (G, WC); Anna and Marilyn Davis (A, MD); Warren and Louise Dean, Mary Dobinsky (MD); Fay Edwards (FE); M. C. and M. Gordon; Elva Hawken (EH); Louise Hover; Claude Howard (CH); Virginia Hudson; Margaret Kenny; Eugene Kirch (EK); Christine Knudsen; Florence Linaberry (FL); Dwight and Margaret Lynch; Bud Meade; Mary Ann Middleton; John G. New (JN); Robert Pantle; Mary Sheffield (MS); David Stirling (DS); Edgar and Frances Vermilya; Elizabeth Washburn; Cora Wellman; Mildred White; Ruth and Sally White; Evelyn Williams; Kathryn Wilson (KW); Irene Wright.

LOONS–DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 Crumhorn L. Oct. 19; 7 Pepacton Res. Oct. 29; 1 Whitney Pt. Nov. 16. **RED-THROATED LOON:** 1 Whitney Pt. Nov. 2 (MS). Red-necked Grebe: 1 Greenwood Pk. Oct. 5 (CH). Horned Grebe: 2 Otsego L. Nov. 15 (MD, KW). Pied-billed Grebe: several. Green Heron: last Sept. 24. Canada Goose: first large flock Sept. 28; last 8 Nov. 16. Ring-necked Duck: Owego Oct. 19. Canvasback: 14 Cannonsville Res. Nov. 6. Bufflehead: Owego Oct. 30. Oldsquaw: Owego Oct. 19. Hooded Merganser: Oneonta Res. Aug. 21; several others. Common Merganser: 12 Whitney Pt. Nov. 16.

HAWKS–ALCIDS: Sharp-shinned Hawk: 5 Hooker Hill (Town of Maryland) Sept. 13; 6 scattered Otsego & Tioga Cos. till early Nov. Cooper's Hawk: 1 S. Otselic Fish Hatch. Aug. 21; scattered reports Sept.; 1 Hartwick Nov. 8. Red-tailed Hawk: scattered reports thruout period. Red-shouldered Hawk: 2 middle Sept.; 1 Nov. 1 Broad-winged Hawk: 37 Hooker Hill Sept. 13; scattered reports from Aug. 20. Marsh Hawk: 3 Otsego Co. Osprey: 5 Otsego Co. 2 Tioga, 1 Broome. Turkey: 5-8 Tioga Co. early Sept. Am. Coot: 35 Apalachin Nov. 19. Semipalmated Plover: Owego Sept. 6. Killdeer: 25 Portlandville Oct. 25; last Oct. 26. Common Snipe: Otsego Co. & Sherburne to Sept. 12. Spotted Sandpiper: Owego Sept. 19. Solitary Sandpiper: Oneonta Res. Sept. 18. Greater Yellowlegs: Owego Sept. only report. Lesser Yellowlegs: 5 Oneonta Res. Sept. 28; 1 Owego same day. Pectoral Sandpiper: Owego Sept. 28 (C, JB). **BAIRD'S SANDPIPER:** 4 S. Otselic Fish Hatch. Aug. 21 (LB). Semipalmated Sandpiper: 7 Sherburne Sept. 24 (R, SW).

PIGEONS–WOODPECKERS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 Otsego Co. Aug. 30. Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 Delhi Sept. 19. Screech Owl: 4 reports. Great Horned Owl: 10 reports. **BARRED OWL:** French Tract (s. of Binghamton) all summer (G, WC, EK). Saw-whet Owl: 1 banded Glen Castle Oct. 30; 2 Vestal Nov. 1.(GC). Com. Nighthawk: Sept. 30. Chimney Swift: Sept. 8. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Sept. 27. No. Flicker: Nov. 29. Pileated Woodpecker: 5 reports.

FLYCATCHERS–STARLINGS: Eastern Kingbird: Sept. 16. Great Crested Flycatcher: Sept. 15. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 1 Vestal Aug. 16; 3 banded Vestal Sept. 2-20; 6 Vestal Sept. 1-19. Acadian Flycatcher: 4 banded Vestal Sept. 18-23 (EH). Alder Flycatcher: 1 banded Vestal Sept. 18 (EH). Least Flycatcher: Sept. 19. Eastern Wood Pewee: Sept. 26. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 Milford Sept. 6; 2 Choconut Center Sept. 6. Rough-winged Swallow: Owego Sept. 19. Barn Swallow: 150 Otsego Co. Aug. 16, 80 Aug. 23; Owego Sept. 18. **BOREAL CHICKADEE:** 1 Vestal Oct. 12, 14 (GC); 1 Port Crane Nov. 9 (DC). Tufted Titmouse: Endwell Sept. 6; regular at at least 3 other Triple Cities feeders. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 7 reports. Brown Creeper: 11 reports. Winter Wren: Sept. 28 Choconut Center; 6 others to Nov. 11. Carolina Wren: 1 Vestal Aug. 19; 1 Glen Castle all period; 5 others to early Nov. Mockingbird: thruout region thruout period. Gray Catbird: Vestal Oct. 22. Brown Thrasher: Choconut Center Oct. 26. Hermit Thrush: many reports Aug. 19 to Oct. 26. Swainson's Thrush: many reports Aug. 19 to Oct. 13. Gray-cheeked Thrush: 1 Owego Sept. 21; 1 banded Vestal Sept. 22 & Oct. 4 (EH). Veery: 8 reports; Owego Oct. 19. Eastern Bluebird: Laurens Nov. 14. Golden-crowned Kinglet: 3 Otsego Co. Aug. 23; 2 Otsego Co. Sept. 20; many to Nov. 9. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 4 Otsego Co. Aug. 16; many to Nov. 2, Endwell. Water Pipit: 30 Norwich Oct. 10; 6 Portlandville Oct. 25. Cedar Waxwing: many thruout period.

VIREOS–WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: Chenango Forks Aug. 18-31; Owego Sept. 21. Solitary Vireo: Vestal Oct. 9. Red-eyed Vireo: banded Vestal Oct. 21. Philadelphia Vireo: 5 reports, 4 banded Vestal to Oct. 3 (EH). Warbling Vireo: Owego Sept. 6: 3 Otsego Co. Sept. 6; Otsego Co. Sept. 20. Blue-winged Warbler: 1 Chenango Forks Sept. 6 (A, MD) only report. Tennessee Warbler: Sept. 2 to Oct. 5. Nashville Warbler: Choconut Center Oct. 4. Parula Warbler: 1 Vestal Oct. 10 (GC) only report. Yellow Warbler: Owego Sept. 6. Magnolia Warbler: Choconut Center Sept. 28. Cape May Warbler: Vestal & Endwell Sept. 27. Black-throated Blue Warbler: Owego Oct. 16. Yellow-rumped Warbler: 10 Otsego Co. Oct. 25; Owego Nov. 2. Black-throated Green Warbler: Owego Oct. 16. Blackburnian Warbler: Owego Oct. 16. **YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER:** 1 SUCO campus Oneonta Oct. 16-21 (MB, FE, JN). Chestnut-sided Warbler: banded Vestal Oct. 5. Bay-breasted Warbler: 8 Otsego Co. Aug. 30. Blackpoll Warbler: Owego Oct. 16. Palm Warbler: banded Vestal Oct. 13, only report. Ovenbird: Vestal Oct. 12. Northern Waterthrush: Vestal Sept. 27. Connecticut Warbler: 1 Candor Sept. 7; 1 Vestal Sept. 17. Common Yellowthroat: Sept. 28; Wilson's Warbler: Owego Sept. 21. Canada Warbler: Owego Sept. 21. Am. Redstart: Choconut Center Sept. 28.

WEAVERS–SPARROWS: Bobolink: 100 Otsego Co. Aug. 30, last report. E. Meadowlark: 8 Milford Nov. 1, last report. Northern Oriole, Owego Sept. 11. Rusty Blackbird: 2 Endwell Oct. 10 (FL) only report. Scarlet Tanager: Owego Nov. 2. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Owego Oct. 4. Evening Grosbeak: 2 Oneonta Res. Aug. 21; 20 Vestal Oct. 8; many later. Purple Finch: 22 Otsego Co. Sept. 13. House Finch: thruout period. Pine Grosbeak: 8 Hartwick Nov. 8; 2 Milford Nov. 23. Pine Siskin: Owego Sept. 23; Candor Nov. 2; 3 other reports. Red Crossbill: 12 Greenwood Park Nov. 16 (MS). White-winged Crossbill: Owego Oct. 17 (RB). Rufous-sided Towhee: Owego Oct. 20. Savannah Sparrow: 1 Otsego Co. Aug. 16 only report. Vesper Sparrow: 5 Delhi Oct. 25. Dark-eyed Junco: 5 Otsego Co. Sept. 13; many Oct., few Nov. Tree Sparrow: 16 Norwich Oct. 10. Chipping Sparrow: Delhi Oct. 29. Field Sparrow: Otsego Co. Oct. 25. White-crowned Sparrow: Choconut Center Oct. 4; Chenango Forks Oct. 4; several thru Oct. 25 when 50 were at Milford. White-throated Sparrow: 1 Otsego Co. Sept. 13, many Oct., few Nov. Fox Sparrow: 2 banded Vestal Oct. 23; Oneonta Nov. 19; 2 other reports. Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 banded Vestal Sept. 18 & 20 (EH); 1 Choconut Center Oct. 18 (MS). Swamp Sparrow: 1 Otsego Co. Aug. 16; 5 Otsego Co. Oct. 25; 5 other reports. Snow Bunting: Owego Nov. 5 (C, JB); 1-2 Greenwood Pk. Nov. 16 (MS).

710 University Ave., Endwell, New York 13760

REGION 5 – ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

FRITZ SCHEIDER

September entered wet and cloudy, persisted so, and turned surprisingly cold by mid-month. Insect life plummeted and correspondingly the insectivores (flycatchers, swallows) bugged out early. Many migrants (thrushes, icterids, tanagers) normally feeding on a mixed insect and fruit diet seemed to concentrate almost exclusively on the heavy berry crops hereabout. October weather mellowed and dried out the soggy landscape a bit. Strong southwest winds, the absence of cold fronts with northerly winds, and the abundant weed seed crop produced ideal conditions to hold migrant sparrows. Conversely the waterfowl and gull movements, particularly on Lake Ontario, were virtually nil and the duck hunters cursed the numerous days of "bluebird" weather. What do we call those lovely warm

autumnal days now that we don't have bluebirds anymore? November remained persistently mild and somewhat dry with no serious freeze-up before the close of the period.

Cone crops and the acorn crop were both utter failures and species dependent (crossbills, Blue Jay) on such will be, I predict, thinly recorded this winter. The heavy rains of Hurricane Eloise in mid-September ruined the local shorebirding and even when some habitat reappeared in October, the shorebird flight continued poor in both numbers and variety.

Positives for the season include 1) increasing numbers of Double-crested Cormorant; 2) some improvement, albeit small, in local tallies of Redhead, Canvasback, Ruddy Duck, and American Coot; 3) good Lake Ontario flights of Oldsquaw and Red-breasted Merganser; 4) a rediscovered hawk migration lookout (1000+ birds) near Oneida; 5) a fair flight of jaegers on Lake Ontario; 6) an irruption of Black-capped Chickadees with accompanying Boreal Chickadees; 7) expansion in Red-bellied Woodpecker, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, and Mockingbird; 8) a strong flight of both kinglets; 9) heavy movements of Hermit and Swainson's Thrushes, Scarlet Tanager, and Rose-breasted Grosbeak; 10) good to excellent tallies of early September warblers–Cape May, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Bay-breasted, and Wilson's Warblers; 11) winter finch irruptions, notable more for variety than numbers, though some species had high counts briefly; and 12) a very heavy sparrow migration in October with an especially strong Lincoln's Sparrow flight.

Negatives, surprisingly, constitute a shorter litany (am I getting optimistic in my old age?)–1) no white herons and a paucity of American Bittern; 2) a very poor dabbler flight, especially of Pintail, American Wigeon, and Wood Duck; 3) a poor flight of both scaup, all three scoters, and both Hooded and Common Mergansers; 4) a miserable shorebird migration, not even improved by the usually numerous later Dunlin; 5) very poor gull numbers, even for the common species; 6) early departures of most flycatchers and all swallows; 7) poor tallies of the later September warblers–Parula, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, and Blackpoll Warblers; 8) a paucity of Horned Lark, Eastern Meadowlark, and "grass" sparrows, most notably Vesper Sparrow.

Seasonal rarities include European Wigeon, Harlequin Duck, Peregrine Falcon, Purple Sandpiper, Parasitic and Pomarine Jaegers, Little Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Forster's Tern, Boreal Chickadee, Bohemian Waxwing, Yellow-breasted Chat, and Sharp-tailed Sparrow.

Abbreviations: DH–Derby Hill near Texas; FH & FHBSP–Fair Haven and Fair Haven Beach State Park; LOL–Lake Ontario littoral; NPT–Northern Pompey Township; SP–Sandy Pond; SSSP–Selkirk Shores State Park near Port Ontario; Syr–Syracuse.

Compilers of report: D. W. Crumb; P. A. DeBenedictis, J. W. Propst, F. G. Scheider. Observers: D. W. Ackley, G. & M. Church; Kay Coyle; Ted Dittrich; Gene Huggins; P. & S. Paquette; B. & S. Peebles; M. S. Rusk; T. Riley; E. VanDresar; C. & R. Wernick; R. & S. White.

Please have Winter Season reports (1 December-31 March) in by April 7.

LOONS–DUCKS: Red-throated Loon: 18 individuals Oct. 23-Nov. 23, the majority from L. Ontario, a bit up from the usual number. Horned Grebe: max. 149 Nov. 2 LOL.

Double-crested Cormorant: one-nine per day LOL thru period; definitely increasing on eastern L. Ontario. Black-crowned Night Heron: max. six Oneida L. Sept. 21. American Bittern: increasingly scarce–total four individuals for the period with the last noted Oct. 26.

Mute Swan: single adult persisting thru period at SSSP. Canada Goose: big flight early–3400 Oct. 2 DH and 1050 Oct. 8 at Oswego. Brant: max. 1600 (low) Oct. 30 DH; no other big groups noted.

Gadwall: max. 53 (low) FHBSP and Beaver L. Nov. 9. Pintail: scarce–max. only 190 Oct. 2 DH; most tallies in one-20 per day range. **EUROPEAN WIGEON:** ad male Oct. 30

DH (FGS), second fall record for the region. American Wigeon: peak 600 Nov. 7 Beaver L. (JWP); used to be recorded in the thousands–where have all the wigeon gone? Wood Duck: fall max. only 72 DH Oct. 7; five years ago it was noted by the hundreds.

Redhead: increasing somewhat–max. 350 FH Nov. 29; also 70 Beaver L. Nov. 9 where recent fall tallies have been only 10-20 per day. Canvasback: some slight improvement in local numbers–max. 850 FH Nov. 29; numbers otherwise below 100 per day.

Oldsquaw: max. 1525 Oct. 30 passing DH in a fierce NW gale. **HARLEQUIN DUCK:** one Nov. 15 (MSR) only report this fall. The scoter flight was rather thin this fall–max. White-winged 350 Nov. 13, Surf 130 Oct. 3, and Black 360 Oct. 30, all from L. Ontario.

Ruddy Duck: max. 73 at Beaver L. Oct. 25 (GH), best tally in a decade. Hooded Merganser: very scarce–max. only 28 Nov. 28 FH; similarly scarce is Common Merganser with the max. a dismal five Nov. 15 DH; in contrast Red-breasted Merganser were abundant along LOL with 7500 Nov. 23 east of Oswego Harbor.

HAWKS–ALCIDS: The Oneida Hawk Lookout tallies Aug. 31 thru Oct. 30 (B & S Peebles) include Turkey Vulture 16, Goshawk 2, Sharp-shinned Hawk 197, Cooper's Hawk 32, Red-tailed Hawk 196, Red-shouldered Hawk 18, Broad-winged Hawk 607, Rough-legged Hawk 18, Marsh Hawk 31, Osprey 6, American Kestrel 119, unidentified 44, grand total 1286. Rare raptors for the fall are an ad Bald Eagle Woodman's Pond Sept. 10 (G & MC) and a second ad at Quaker Hill near Rome (fide EVD), **PEREGRINE FALCON** singles Sept. 21 and Oct. 3 SP (FGS), and ad male Merlin Sept. 7 Tully (JWP).

Ring-necked Pheasant: increasingly scarce–max. only 8 Sept. 4 Vernon. American Coot: max. 400 Nov. 29 FH and 600 Nov. 7 Beaver L, tallies much increased over past five years.

Shorebirding in the period was basically a washout–Hurricane Eloise swamped all local mud flats and shorebirds were more likely in muddy harvested cornfields than at lake margins. Killdeer: max. 120 Sept. 4 Mexico. American Golden Plover: max. 35 Sept. 18 Durhamville and again 35 Oct. 3 Canastota (both DWA); departure date Nov. 9 one (late) Sage Creek flats. Black-bellied Plover: scarce–max. only 14 FH Oct. 26; present to Nov. 20 one Sage Creek flats.

Common Snipe: max. 70 Oct. SSSP–Chedmardo; present thru period. Upland Sandpiper: 5 Sept. 17 Bridgeport, late for so many. Spotted Sandpiper: 1 Nov. 2 FH is a record departure date (MSR). Greater Yellowlegs: a rotten flight–max. only 8 Oct. 7 DH–Chedmardo; present to Nov. 9. Lesser Yellowlegs: like Greater Yellowlegs, a very poor flight–max. only 27 Sept. 1 Onondaga L.; departure date Oct. 30 DH. **PURPLE SANDPIPER:** 2 Nov. 2 and 1 Nov. 23, both FH; unreported elsewhere despite intensive searching. Pectoral Sandpiper: max. 33 (low) Oct. 12 SSSP–Chedmardo; last are singles Nov. 9 at Sage Creek flats and near Beaver L. White-rumped Sandpiper: only three individuals for entire period (16 observers). Baird's Sandpiper: max. 10, a high tally for upstate, Sept. 3 Onondaga L. (PAD). Least Sandpiper: max. 18 (low) Sept. 1 SP-SSSP with departure date Oct. 25 (late), 1 SSSP. Dunlin: max. only 40 (miserably low) Oct. 25 SP-SSSP; present to Dec. 4 1 FH. Semipalmated Sandpiper: fall max. 95 Sept. 1 SP-Onondaga L.; departure date Oct. 17 (very early) 2 SSSP, especially when compared to Least Sandpiper. **HUDSONIAN GODWIT:** 14, all immatures, Oct. 3-5 (DWA), a splendid flock for the traditional "Godwit Weekend."

RED PHALAROPE: 1 Sept. 1-11 Onondaga L. and singles Sept. 14 and again Nov. 20 at SP; Nov. is normally the best month to see a Red Phalarope in the region. In contrast, **NORTHERN PHALAROPE** was extremely scarce–just 2 Sept. 4 Onondaga L. for all fall.

PARASITIC JAEGER: 4 Oct. 21, 21 Oct. 16, 1 Oct. 25 all at DH–a good flight. **POMARINE JAEGER:** dark phase imm seen for 25 min. Nov. 22 DH (DWC, FGS), a record late date for the species locally. In general a very poor fall for gulls–max. for the common species were 70 Great Black-backed, 500 Herring, and 2000 Ring-billed Gulls Nov. 23 at

Oswego; all Bonaparte's Gull counts less than 60 per day–terrible. The only rare species were Little Gull single adults Oct. 16 and Nov. 22 DH and an imm **BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE** Nov. 12 also DH; the latter is now a rare but regular Nov. visitant on L. Ontario. **FORSTER'S TERN**: max. 4 Sept. 11 SP and 3 Sept. 19 FH, the latter notable for such a number away from SP Inlet. Common Tern: singles at FH and Oswego Nov. 2 (MSR) are very late.

PIGEONS–WOODPECKERS: Snowy Owl: single at Syr Airport Nov. 25 with 2 or 3 birds reported by end of period–definitely not a flight year.

Common Nighthawk: 1 Oct. 3 at SP (FGS) is a quite late migrant. Red-bellied Woodpecker: expanding on Ontario lakeplain with 6 individuals Oct. 9 Lysander Twshp, Onondaga Co. and an ad male at Oak Orchard on the Oneida River Nov. 1.

FLYCATCHERS–STARLINGS: Eastern Phoebe: scarce thru fall–max. only 6 Oct. 3 SP-SSSP; present to Oct. 26 2 DH-Oswego. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 14 individuals Sept. 11-Sept. 26–a poor fall showing. Horned Lark: very thin fall migration–max.only 40 Oct. 23 DH-SSSP; scarce here now both as breeder and as migrant. Departure dates for swallows were Tree Swallow Oct. 26, 35; Bank Swallow Sept. 28 1; Rough-winged Swallow Oct. 4 1; Barn Swallow Oct. 7 1; Cliff Swallow Sept. 2 1; Purple Martin Sept. 23 1–not one lingering species in the whole bloody bunch. Common Crow: 1000 Oct. 25 SP-SSSP only high count for the fall–where are they?

An irruption of Black-capped Chickadee (100-300 per day in late Oct.) was accompanied by at least 6 **BOREAL CHICKADEES** in November; inexplicably there was a simultaneous Tufted Titmouse incursion (16 individuals Oct. 5-Nov. 30). Red-breasted Nuthatch: a moderate Sept. flight (max. 20 Sept. 14 SP-SSSP) but very scarce after Oct. 5.

Winter Wren: max. 56, a state record, Sept. 28 SP-Hickory Grove. Carolina Wren: now up to 35 different sites for the region, a record number. Mockingbird: newly sighted at Syracuse (3), Wampsville, Jamesville, DH, Lysander, and Clay Swamp–expanding but more slowly than either Tufted Titmouse or Carolina Wren. Gray Catbird: fall max. 34 Sept. 19 FH–Hannibal; last noted Oct. 13 (early) 5 Hannibal-Clay Swamp. Brown Thrasher: singles Nov. 5 DH and Nov. 15 Pompey are somewhat late.

American Robin: max. 560 Sept. 19 FH-Hannibal feeding on *Cornus* sp. berries. Hermit Thrush: a superb fall for this species–counts of 10-20 per day in mid-Oct. with max. 24 Oct. 7 SP-Chedmardo. Swainson's Thrush: max. 70 (best fall count in years) Sept. 19 FH-Hannibal. Veery: 1 seen and heard Oct. 26 Lakeview (FGS) and 1 seen Nov. 5 N. Syracuse (K. Slotnick) are both record departure dates for the state. Eastern Bluebird: 29 individuals (16 observers) for period–a poor fall flight.

Strong flights of both Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets this fall with max. 250 Golden-crowned Kinglets Pompey and 130 Ruby-crowned Kinglets Hannibal-Sterling, both tallies on Oct. 13. Water Pipit: heavy flight with 600 Oct. 10 Lysander, 200 Sept. 26 Pompey, and 200 Oct. 23 DH; present to Nov. 14 3, Eaton. **BOHEMIAN WAXWING**: 5 on Nov. 13 DH (FGS) were prelude to the best modern regional flight to date. Northern Shrike: total of 21 individuals Oct. 23 thru period–a strong incursion.

VIREOS–WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: last noted were 5 individuals Oct. 26 at LOL, NPT, and Syr. Philadelphia Vireo: a very heavy flight with max. 16 Sept. 1 SP-LOL, a state record for live birds; last noted Oct. 28 (late) 1 NPT.

Black-and-white Warbler: light flight with max. only 9 Sept. 1 LOL. Tennessee Warbler: max. 32 (low) Sept. 1 SP-LOL. Orange-crowned Warbler: 26 individuals, a pronounced flight with latest Oct. 22 1 Pratt's Falls. Parula Warbler: poor flight with max. 5 Sept. 11 SP; last noted Oct. 20 (late) 1 NPT. Magnolia Warbler: strong fall flight with max. 60 Sept. 1 SP-LOL; 1 on Oct. 13 NPT is late. Cape May Warbler: very heavy flight and much pro-

tracted–max. 34 Sept. 1 SP-LOL; arr. Aug. 10 with departure date Oct. 21 1 S. Onondaga area. Black-throated Blue Warbler: in complete contrast to Cape May Warbler, a miserable fall flight with max. only 6 Sept. 18 SP; last noted Oct. 15 (early) 1 Syracuse. Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler: heavy fall migration–max. 229 Sept. 21 SP-SSSP; many counts of 100 per day and widely so; noted thru period. Black-throated Green Warbler: like Black-throated Blue Warbler, a terrible fall movement–max. only 35 Sept. 21 SP-SSSP with last Oct. 26 1 near Oswego. Blackburnian Warbler: max. 25 (high) Sept. 1 SP-LOL; last noted Oct. 6 (late) 1 Lysander. Bay-breasted Warbler: everywhere this fall–max. 53 Sept. 1 SP-LOL with departure date Oct. 6 1 Lysander. Palm Warbler: total of 6 individuals of the "Yellow Palm" race Oct. 8 to 26–usually only 1 to 2 per fall here. Mourning Warbler: poor flight–only 10 individuals noted Sept. 1-Oct. 13. **YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT:** only fall report 1 Sept. 7 NPT; this warbler is one of the most difficult species to see in the fall. Wilson's Warbler: max. 24 (fair) Sept. 11 SP-SSSP; last noted Oct. 13 1 NPT.

WEAVERS–SPARROWS: Eastern Meadowlark: where are they this fall??–counts ridiculously low–1-20 per day with max. a mere 40 Oct. 23 DH. Northern Oriole: early departure with last Sept. 10 1 Bridgeport area. Rusty Blackbird: first noted Sept. 11 1 SSSP; heavy numbers in late Oct. with max. 290 Oct. 26 DH-FH.

Scarlet Tanager: fall max. 29 (high) Sept. 19 FH-Hannibal; departure date Oct. 1 1 NPT is very early. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max. 41 (high) Sept. 19 FH-Hannibal–like Scarlet Tanager, Swainson's Thrush, and American Robin this species was concentrated in richly laden berry-bearing *Cornus* thickets; last noted Oct. 13 1 NPT, somewhat late and in strong contrast to the very early departures of Northern Oriole and Scarlet Tanager.

Some species of winter finches (Evening Grosbeak, Pine Siskin) arrived early and, in some cases, in impressive numbers; however, the later arriving species (Pine Grosbeak, Common Redpoll) appeared to be lingering here rather than passing on thru as the earlier species did. Evening Grosbeak: arr Sept. 4 (very early) 2 NPT; max. 700 Oct. 25 DH; Nov. numbers down, primarily reported from feeders with the abundant local Box Elder crop seemingly ignored. Pine Grosbeak: arr Oct. 25 14 DH in a fringillid flight passing DH; small numbers in Nov. but larger flocks in early Dec.

Common Redpoll: arr late–Nov. 2 10 DH; few in numbers thru Nov. but tallies up strongly in last week of Nov. and into early Dec. Pine Siskin: arr Sept. 22 (early) 1 NPT; large flocks in last two weeks of Oct. (120-210 per day) but few persisting thru Nov. American Goldfinch: hundreds noted widely with counts of 300-850 per day in late Oct. Red Crossbill: arr Sept. 18 (early) 2 Hickory Grove LOL; flock counts in late Oct. 20-25 per day but only small flocks in first half of Nov.–no cones available to hold them here. White-winged Crossbill: miniscule flight–3 birds only–bah!

Savannah Sparrow: max. 55 Oct. 3 Mexico; scarce otherwise with most counts 4-5 per day. Grasshopper Sparrow: 3 Oct. 13 Hannibal, late for so many. **SHARP-TAILED SPARROW:** 1 Clay Swamp Oct. 26-28 (J & N Sedgwick) is only the fourth fall regional record–it's a tough bird to see locally. Vesper Sparrow: max. only 7 Oct. 9 Lysander; most observers saw none.

Very heavy flights of Dark-eyed Junco–max. 424 Oct. 13, White-crowned Sparrow–max. 330 Oct. 13, and White-throated Sparrow 700 Oct. 13, all Sterling-Hannibal-Clay Swamp; numerous lesser counts (hundreds each day) of these three species thru Oct. with many present thru first two weeks of Nov., especially White-throated Sparrow.

Lincoln's Sparrow: 92 individuals recorded this fall; arr Sept. 1 1 SP (FGS, GH), with max. 10 Sept. 28 NPT in a heavy flight of migrants grounded there by rain and fog. Lapland Longspur: Sept. 11 2 at SP inlet (FGS) is a regional and a state record fall arrival date.

114 Rockland Drive, North Syracuse, New York 13212

REGION 6 – ST. LAWRENCE

LEE B. CHAMBERLAINE

Fall of 1975 was either unable to let go of summer or grab for winter. Temperatures were from a high of in the 70°F range (25°C) to a low of 20°F (-6°C) in November. However, temperatures were up one day and down the next.

As concerns trends, waterfowl were in excellent numbers. Some raptors indicated an upward swing while the accipiters and eagles remain low or nonexistent in reports.

Shorebirds and warblers provided some excellent records and the winter finches increased in numbers and varieties through the period.

Rarities included the following: **RED-THROATED LOON, RED-NECKED GREBE, CATTLE EGRET, NORTHERN PHALAROPE, SABINE'S GULL**–a first for the region, **CAROLINA WREN.**

Localities: ED–Eldorado Shores; LWMA–Lakeview WMA; PRWMA–Perch River WMA; RMPD–Robt. Moses Power Dam; SLR–St. Lawrence River; ULLWMA–Upper and Lower Lakes WMA; WHWMA–Wilson Hill WMA; WMA–wildlife management area.

Contributors: John B. Belknap; Tom L. & Cathy Carrolan; Lee B. Chamberlaine; Mrs. Stephen (Kate) Coyle; Frank Clinch; Robt. C. & June Walker; Bob & Carol Wernick; Joannes A. VanRiet.

LOONS–DUCKS: Com. Loon: 2 Pillar Pt. Nov. 9. **RED-THROATED LOON;** 1 Sherwins Bay Nov. 11 (RCW). **RED-NECKED GREBE:** 10 RMPD Oct. 5 (JAV). Horned Grebe: max. 38 Nov. 11. Double-crested Cormorant: 4 ED Sept. 6 (RCW). Great Blue Heron: thru. Green Heron: 1 ED Sept. 6. **CATTLE EGRET:** 1 Watertown Airport Oct. 29 (RCW).

Snow Goose: 1500 Dexter Marsh; 200 ULLWMA; 500 PRWMA; 100 WHWMA all Oct. 20 (LBC). Gadwall: good numbers at PRWMA and down from 2 yrs. ago.WHWMA (LBC). Blue-winged Teal: 120 LWMA Sept. 14 (Bob & Carol Wernick). N. Shoveler: 20 ED Sept. 14 (Wernick). Wood Duck: everywhere. Redhead: 500 SLR Oct. 5 (JAV); rafts of 200-300 WHWMA thru. Ring-necked Duck: 200-300 ULLWMA thru. Canvasback: 100 upstream RMPD, Nov. 8 (JAV); many thousands Carlton Isl. SLR Nov. 14 (Al O'Neil) blown east by storm front (LBC). Greater Scaup: 6000 Black River Bay; 4000 Pt. Peninsula both Nov. 11 (RCW). Lesser Scaup: ± 6 at WHWMA.

Oldsquaw: 300 ED Nov. 11. White-winged Scoter: 100 ED Oct. 26 (TLC). Black Scoter: 20 ED Oct. 26 (TLC). Ruddy Duck: 2 Pillar Pt. Nov. 9 (TLC). Common Merganser: 3000 RMPD Nov. 1 (JAV).

HAWKS–ALCIDS: Red-tailed Hawk: more common than last few years. Broad-winged Hawk: 1 Sackets Harbor Sept. 15 (TLC); a little later than normal. Rough-legged Hawk: 1 Oct. 4; 10 Pt. Peninsula Nov. 11. Marsh Hawk: numbers up. Osprey: 1 Snowshoe Pt. Sept. 6; 1 Pt. Peninsula Sept. 14; 1 Henderson Hbr. Sept. 21; 1 LWMA Oct. 19; may increase use of Henderson area and south because of dead salmon in fall from L. Ontario Salmon Program. Am. Kestrel: good numbers thru.

Ruffed Grouse: numbers up. Gray Partridge: 15 Sulfur Springs Rd. Oct. 31; 4 near RMPD Nov. 15; population still low. Am. Coot: 120 WHWMA end Nov.

Black-bellied Plover: 2 ED Sept. 6 (RCW); 1 ED Sept. 14 (Wernick). Ruddy Turnstone: 8 ED Sept. 14 (Wernick). Common Snipe: 4 Sherwins Bay Oct. 29. Red Knot: 11 ED Sept. 14 (Wernick). Least Sandpiper: 3 ED Sept. 6. Dunlin: 39 ED Sept. 14 (Wernick). Short-billed Dowitcher: 30 ED Sept. 6. Sanderling: 16 ED Sept. 14; 20 ED Oct. 26 (TLC). **NORTHERN PHALAROPE:** 1 ED Sept. 6 (RCW).

Iceland Gull: 1 first yr. RMPD Nov. 15 (JAV). Great Black-backed Gull: 3 ED Sept. 6. Bonaparte's Gull: 4 ED Sept. 6. **SABINE'S GULL:** 1 immature upstream RMPD Sept. 14 (JAV–Scott Findlay and Allen Bain) observed from 1500 hrs. to 1730 hrs. was in with immature Bonaparte's Gulls; *regional first;* descriptive info to editor.

PIGEONS–WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: more small flocks than last fall. Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 Brownville Sept. 6; 1 dead same location Sept. 16 (TLC). Snowy Owl: 1 Chaumont Nov. 11; 1 Cape Vincent Nov. 25. **SHORT-EARED OWL:** 1 near Dexter Sept. 15 (TLC); 7 Chaumont Nov. 11 (RCW). Com. Nighthawk: last date Sept. 17. Chimney Swift: 4 Dry Hill *Oct. 1* (RCW); very late. Belted Kingfisher: thru. Pileated Woodpecker: thru. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: thru to Sept. 28.

FLYCATCHERS–STARLINGS: Great Crested Flycatcher: 1 Sept. 17. E. Phoebe: 2 Sept. 28. Bank Swallow: 300 near Dexter Sept. 16. Brown Creeper: 4 Sept. 27; 3 Sept. 28. House Wren: 1 Dry Hill Oct. 2. **CAROLINA WREN:** 1 heard Snowshoe Pt. Sept. 24; 1 heard Whites Bay Oct. 12 both (LBC); both locations are close to each other–same bird? **MOCKINGBIRD:** 1 PRWMA Oct. 9; 1 near Henderson Oct. 25 (LBC); 1 at Stony Point in Oct. (Mrs. Barr). Brown Thrasher: 1 Dexter Oct. 29 (RCW). Swainson's Thrush: 8 Brownville Sept. 1-5; 15 Brownville Sept. 6; several banded between Sept. 16 & Oct. 17 (F. Clinch). **GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH:** 1 banded Watertown Sept. 23; 1 banded Watertown Oct. 2 (Clinch); first fall dates for region. Eastern Bluebird: last date Oct. 23. Water Pipit: 3 ED Sept. 14 (Wernick); ± 25 near PRWMA Sept. 21 (TLC); 20 ED Oct. 26. Northern Shrike: 1 immature Sackets Hbr. Sept. 26; 2 ED Oct. 26 (Kate Coyle).

VIREOS–WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: 1 Brownville Sept. 1; 2 Brownville Sept. 5. Red-eyed Vireo: 1 Oct. 5. Black-and-white Warbler: last date Sept. 14. **TENNESSEE WARBLER:** 8 Brownville Sept. 1; max. 80 Brownville Sept. 7; last 3 Brownville Sept. 14–all (TLC). Nashville Warbler: 1 Brownville Sept. 17. Magnolia Warbler: 1 Brownville Sept. 5; 4 same loc. Sept. 6; last 2 same loc. Sept. 14. Bay-breasted Warbler: max. 15 Brownville Sept. 17; last Sept. 28. **BLACKPOLL WARBLER:** 2 Brownville Sept. 3; 3 same loc. Sept. 16; 4 others thru Sept. 28 (TLC). **PINE WARBLER:** 1 ED Sept. 14 (Wernick). Palm Warbler: 1 (western race) Brownville Oct. 26 (TLC).

WEAVERS–SPARROWS: Rusty Blackbird: 1 Sherwins Bay Oct. 29. Evening Grosbeak: 15 Whites Bay Sept. 21, 6 Henderson Sept. 25; now at feeders. Purple Finch: 3 Brownville Sept. 2. **PINE GROSBEAK:** 15 Barnes Corners Oct. 29 others overhead (LBC). Common Redpoll: 3 Brownville Nov. 14. **PINE SISKIN:** 20 Watertown Nov. 2; 15 Pillar Pt. Nov. 9 (TLC). Tree Sparrow: first date Oct. 22. White-crowned Sparrow: first date Sept. 30. Snow Bunting: 10 ED Oct. 26.

Box 139, Henderson, New York 13650

REGION 7 – ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

Last year's bumper cone and seed crop was definitely not repeated this year as might be expected. Beechnuts were scarce or absent. The major influence on birds seemed to be dry weather, with Lake Champlain lowering to expose mud flats attractive to shorebirds. Geoffrey Carleton writes that he estimates 22 species of shorebirds were seen in August and September. Capt. Philip Warren of Plattsburgh Air Force Base found and carefully identified a Purple Sandpiper near his home before meeting Dr. Donald Knies of the same town who

had also seen the same bird but didn't want to bring up the subject of inland Purple Sandpipers. This appears to be a first record for the region. The great concentration of Snow Geese at Ticonderoga should also be noted.

Observers: DA–Deborah Anson; GC–Geoffrey Carleton; DK–Don Knies; RMcK–Robert McKinney; NM–Norman Mason; KM–Keith Murphy; DN–Dan Nickerson; JP–John M. C. Peterson; JR–Jerry Rosenband; R&MS–Robert & Mary Sheffield; CS–Carole Slatkin; PT–Pat Tabor; PW–Phil Warren.

Abbreviations: Cham–Champlain; E'town–Elizabethtown; Ind–Indian; Plat–Plattsburg; Ti–Ticonderoga; Wall–Wallonsburg.

LOONS–DUCKS: Common Loon: 2 adults Sept. 8 Weller P (R&MS). Red-necked Grebe: 1 Sept. 27 Plat (PW, DK). Green Heron: 1 Sept. 9 Weller P near Middle Saranac L (R&MS); scarce this area. Snow Goose: 170 Oct. 11 E'town (G & Irene C); many imm. This species built up to 3000 birds off Ti Oct. 26 but was only half this two days later. High Peaks Audubon Newsletter says the Essex Ferry detoured a bit so passengers could see the birds. Perhaps this is a migration stop that will be used regularly in future if birds are not disturbed. This is quite a change from not being seen at all some seasons. Even non-birders should have noticed a raft of these birds in the past so this seems to be a new occurrence. Redhead: 3 Oct. 18-30 Westport (GC, NM); very rare in region. Greater Scaup: 4 Oct. 26 Westport about 3 weeks early (GC).

HAWKS–ALCIDS: Second weekend of Oct. DN saw about 50 assorted hawks flying south between Jay and Saddleback Mts. during a few hours of west wind. Turkey Vulture: 20 early Sept. Westport (Hal Ring). Cooper's Hawk: 1 Sept. 9 Wall (GC); 1 Sept. 27 Plat (PW). Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 imm Sept. 27 Plat. (PW). Rough-legged Hawk: 1 Oct. 25 Ind L (RMcK) as well as usual Cham birds. Bald Eagle: 1 adult Sept. 21 Westport (Peg Schneider, CS). Osprey: 1 Aug. 28 NW Bay of L Cham (DA, KM, JP); 1 Aug. 31 Ti Marsh (JP, PT); 1 Ind L Oct. 27 (RMcK). Merlin: 1 bluish adult male falcon, not accipiter, identified perched and in flight Sept. 2 E'town (GC); 1 female Sept. 27 Plat (PW, many obs). Rare but they are seen in these areas. American Coot: 1 Nov. 7 Westport (GC)–rare. Semipalmated Plover: sev. Aug. Westport (GC). American Golden Plover: fewer seen this year in Clinton, Essex, and Franklin Cos. Black-bellied Plover: 8 Aug. 17 Westport (GC). **RUDDY TURNSTONE:** first Essex Co. record is Aug. 17 Ti (Betsy & John Macmillan); 1 Sept. 27 Plat (PW). Upland Sandpiper: 2 Sept. 3 Wadhams (JP, CS, JR). Solitary Sandpiper: L Cham plus sev. reports from Adirondack ponds as usual. Willet: 1 flashing wings Aug. 18 (DA, KM, JP). **PURPLE SANDPIPER:** on rocks Oct. 9 and 11 Plat complete with two-tone bill and dark plumage (PW, DK). Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 Sept. 14 Westport (JP, PT). White-rumped Sandpiper: 1 Aug. 24-Sept. 1 Westport (GC, JP, PT). Baird's Sandpiper: 2 Sept. 26 Westport (GC, NM). Short-billed Dowitcher: 1 Aug. 18 Westport (DA, KM, JP); 1 Aug. 21 Four Bros. Is (KM). **WESTERN SANDPIPER:** 1 carefully identified with droop to bill Aug. 17 Westport (GC, many obs). Eaton has an 1880 Franklin Co. record but this is a first for Essex Co. Northern Phalarope: 1 Aug. 24 Westport (DA, GC, PT). Bonaparte's Gull: 161 Oct. 27 Plat (PW).

PIGEONS–WOODPECKERS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 Sept. 4 Essex (JR, CS). Snowy Owl: 1 Nov. 13 NW Bay of L Cham (GC, JP, many obs). Common Nighthawk: 1 dead Aug. 22 Westport (DA, JP, PT). Five reports of Red-headed Woodpecker.

FLYCATCHERS–STARLINGS: Horned Lark: 200 Nov. 2 Lewis (DN). Water Pipit: 200 Sept. 14 Essex (JR, CS); 50 Sept. 20 Westport (JP, PT). Northern Shrike: JP banded an imm at Essex Nov. 15.

VIREOS–WARBLERS: Nashville Warbler: 1 Oct. 31 L Placid (Joseph Keji). Magnolia Warbler: 1 Oct. 7 E'town (GC). Cape May Warbler: 1 at Moriah feeder for second winter (August Gabel). Yellow-rumped Warbler: 1 Nov. 4 Westport (JP, PT). Palm Warbler: GC

and PT had both races between Oct. 20 and 21 E'town. American Redstart: 1 Nov. 10 Essex (Peter Martin, JP).

WEAVERS–SPARROWS: Eastern Meadowlark: 12 Nov. 15 Wall (JP, PT). Indigo Bunting: 1 Oct. 7 E'town (GC). Dickcissel: 1 male Oct. 20-26 E'town with House Sparrows. Evening Grosbeak: scarce. House Finch: 1 male Aug. 17 Willsboro (William Ritchie). Pine Grosbeak: widely reported from Ind L to Paul Smiths to L Cham. Rufous-sided Towhee: 1 Oct. 6 Paul Smiths (Donald Trumbull)–scarce here. Everyone here seems to agree that it was a good sparrow migration. Savannah Sparrow: 1 Nov. 29-30 E'town (GC). White-crowned Sparrow: 1 Nov. 29 Plat (PW). Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 E'town Oct. 20 (GC). Snow Bunting: arrived Paul Smiths Oct. 25.

P. O. Box 125, Paul Smiths, New York 12970

REGION 8 – HUDSON-MOHAWK

GLADYS SNELL

The fall period started off cold and wet with a -2.5 degree F (1.4°C) and +1.45 inch of rain departure from normal. However, October and November were warmer, especially November with +5.9 degrees F (3.3°C) above normal. Precipitation for both months was slightly above normal with only 3.6 inches of snow which soon disappeared.

A few highlights from the reports should be interesting and informative. A local hawk watching area has provided more reports. An American Golden Plover with a broken leg was seen on the Hudson High School field from November 19 thru 22. A Kumlien's Gull was seen at Lock 6 Mohawk River by B. R. Seguin. R. P. Yunick reports an early and heavy irruption of Red-breasted Nuthatches and Black-capped Chickadees at his feeders at Jenny Lake with considerable increase in bandings. Apparently most of the nuthatches are moving further south while the chickadees are staying near feeders as indicated by numerous repeat captures. It is also apparent from Dial-A-Bird reports that we have had an irruption of major proportion of Boreal Chickadees from early October thru mid-November with none apparently establishing themselves at feeders. House Finches also arrived early in September and in large numbers with 62 bandings in November by R. P. Yunick at his feeders. He also reports the unprecedented early appearance of Pine Siskins at his feeders. Normally they arrive late December or January but arrived November 8, 384 were banded in the 23 days of November, setting a record as none had ever been banded in November before.

Abbreviations: CC–Columbia County; D-A-B–Dial-A-Bird; EG–East Greenbush; HR–Hudson River; L6–Lock 6, Mohawk River; NB–New Baltimore; NWW–Niskayuna Wide Waters; RL–Round Lake; SL–Saratoga Lake; SCR–Stony Creek Reservoir; thru–thruout period; TR–Tomhannock Reservoir.

LOONS–DUCKS: Common Loon: many reported Sept. 18-Nov. 26, max. 20 Nov. 8. Red-throated Loon: 1 Oct. 20, 31 SL; 1 Nov. 8 RL and L6; 2 Nov. 2, 10, 15, 29 TR. Red-necked Grebe: appear scarcer than usual, only 1 Nov. 19 SL. Horned Grebe: first Oct. 4 SL thru Nov., max. 30 Nov. 8. Pied-billed Grebe: many sightings of 1 or 2 Sept. 9 thru Nov. 19. Double-crested Cormorant: 3 Sept. 2, 2 Sept. 3 NWW. Great Blue Heron: 7 reports Sept. 2 thru Oct. 26, max. 9 Sept. 3. Green Heron: 1 Sept. 17 CC; 1 Sept. 27 Mariaville. Great Egret: 2 Sept. 2 NWW; 1 Sept. 3 L6. Black-crowned Night Heron: only report 1 Nov. 6 HR at NB. Canada Goose: many reports, first Sept. 4, last Nov. 23 with flocks of 200 and 300 in Oct. max. 2000 Nov. 2. Snow Goose: 200 Oct. 12 NB; 65 Oct. 21 Heldebergs. Green-

winged Teal: last Nov. 22. Blue-winged Teal: last Oct. 26. Am. Wigeon: first Sept. 18, last Nov. 29. Gadwall: only report a pair Nov. 8 SCR. Pintail: only report 2 Sept. 14 HRCoeymans. N. Shoveler: 2 Nov. 8 R&SL. Wood Duck: Sept. 7-28, Oct. 24 CC. Redhead: 2-21 Oct. 20-Nov. 19 SL, peak 21 Nov. 16. Ring-necked Duck: Oct. 29-Nov. 28, peak 70 Oct. 30. Canvasback: Oct. 27-Nov. 14, peak 40 Nov. 14. Scaup (sp): Oct. 14-Nov. 20, peak 30 Nov. 8. Com. Goldeneye: Oct. 19-Nov. 23, peak 69 Nov. 16. Bufflehead: Oct. 26-Nov. 18, peak 30 Nov. 16. Oldsquaw: 3 Nov. 14, 1 Nov. 16 HR at NB; 2 Nov. 5 TR; 2 Nov. 12, 4 Nov. 14 SL. White-winged Scoter: 1 Oct. 20, 3 Nov. 14 SL. Black Scoter: Oct. 18-Nov. 18, max. 7 Nov. 10. Ruddy Duck: Oct. 4-Nov. 8, max. 4 Nov. 7. Hooded Merganser: 1 Nov. 7 SL; 1 Nov. 25 SCR. Com. Merganser: Oct. 20-Nov. 29, max. 50 Nov. 29. Red-breasted Merganser: 2 Nov. 8 SL; 6 Nov. 29 TR.

HAWKS–ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: 4 reports Sept. 14-Oct. 26, max. 2 Oct. 26. Goshawk: 1 Oct. 21 Heldebergs. Hawks: Sharp-shinned: Sept. 14-Oct. 26, max. 7 Oct. 21. Cooper's: Sept. 13-Oct. 30, max. 6 Oct. 26. Red-tailed: Sept. 26-Nov. 3, max. 99 Oct. 26. Red-shouldered: Sept. 20-Nov. 15, usually 1 lone bird. Broad-winged: Sept. 21-Oct. 26, usually 1 lone bird. Rough-legged: 1 Oct. 26, 5 Nov. 21 CC; arrived Oct. 30 at Mariaville (D-A-B). Marsh: Sept. 21-Nov. 30, max. 5 Sept. 29. Osprey: Sept. 3-Oct. 22, max. 3 Sept. 5. Am. Kestrel: Sept. 15-Oct. 6, max. 10 Sept. 15. Ruffed Grouse: Sept. 14-Nov. 26, max. 4 Nov. 2. Turkey: only report 21 Oct. 8 CC. Sora: 1 Sept. 7 Rensselaer. Com. Gallinule: Sept. 28 CC. Am. Coot: Sept. 9-Nov. 23, max. 120 Nov. 15 TR. **AM. GOLDEN PLOVER:** Nov. 11-22 CC, uncommon this late. Killdeer: 2 Sept. 27 Mariaville; 2 Oct. 18 EG. Am. Woodcock: Oct. 12-Nov. 17 CC. Com. Snipe: Oct. 3-Nov. 22 CC. Solitary Sandpiper, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs: Oct. 1, 3, 5 CC. Gulls: Iceland: 1 Nov. 8, 22, 23, 28 with 1 **KUMLIEN'S** Nov. 28 L6. Great Black-backed: Sept. 4, 5, 8 CC; 3 Nov. 28 L6. Herring: 15 Nov. 8 S&RL; 20 Nov. 13 TR. Ring-billed: 5 Nov. 8 S&RL. Bonaparte's: Sept. 27-Nov. 9, max. 20 Oct. 22, increase from last year. Com. Tern: 8 Sept. 2 NWW. Black Tern: 1 Sept. 2 NWW.

PIGEONS–WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: only report Sept. 1, 2, 7 CC. Owls: Screech: 4 thru, 1 banded NB; 1 Oct. 15, Nov. 19 EG; 1 dead on road Nov. 22 CC. Great Horned: 1 thru Oct. and Nov. CC; 1 Nov. 16 Schodack Center; 1 Nov. 19 EG. Barred: 1 Nov. 23 CC. Saw-whet: 1 imm Oct. 23 Colonie. Com. Nighthawk: 4 Sept. 7 Troy; 1 Sept. 7 EG. Chimney Swift: 1 Sept. 27 Mariaville; large flight Sept. 30 Heldebergs. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: many reports, max. 3 Sept. 4. Belted Kingfisher: few thru. Woodpeckers: Pileated: Sept. 1-Nov. 22, max. 3 Nov. 8. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 1 Sept. 21 CC; 1 Oct. 3, 10 Loudonville; 2 Sept. 7 Mariaville.

FLYCATCHERS–STARLINGS: Flycatchers: Great Crested: only report last Sept. 7 CC. E. Phoebe: many reports Sept. 27-Oct. 28. 1 banded Oct. 28 NB. Yellow-bellied: 1 Sept. 2 S. Saratoga Co; 1 Sept. 22 RL. Least: 3 banded Sept. 8, 9 NB. E. Wood Pewee: 1 Sept. 1 CC; 1 Sept. 7 Loudonville. Horned Lark: 2 Oct. 10 Heldebergs. Fish Crow: 1 Nov. 6 HR at NB. **BOREAL CHICKADEE:** numerous intermittent reports Oct. 9-Nov. 13. Red-breasted Nuthatch: Sept. 27-Nov. 15. Brown Creeper: a few Sept. 28 thru. House Wren: Sept.-Nov. 2 CC; Sept.-Oct. 3, 5 banded NB. Winter Wren: 1 Sept. 28 Loudonville; 2 Oct. 2 banded NB; 2 Oct. 14 S. Saratoga Co. Carolina Wren: 4 thru, 2 banded NB; 1 Oct. 25 Delmar; 1 Nov. 15 TR. Brown Thrasher: intermittent Sept. 1-26 CC. Am. Robin: large flocks Sept. CC; a few in Oct. in many areas; last Nov. 15 TR. Thrushes: Wood: Sept. 2-7 CC; last Sept. 25 Loudonville. Hermit: Oct. 1-Nov. 1, 13 banded NB; other areas Oct. 4-Nov. 7, usually 1 lone bird. Swainson's: many reports Sept. 12-Oct. 4, max. 8 Sept. 16; 9 banded NB. Gray-cheeked: 1 Sept. 16 Saratoga Co; 1 Sept. 29 Heldebergs; 1 Oct. 17 Loudonville. Veery: only report Sept. 1-30 CC. E. Bluebird: only report 6 Nov. 23 NB. Kinglets: reports indicate increased numbers during Nov. in CC. Ruby-crowned: many reports Sept. 27-Oct. 26. Golden-crowned: few reports Oct. 4-Nov. 15. Water Pipit: Sept. 29-Nov. 15, 2 flocks in Nov. Cedar Waxwing: thru; higher than normal numbers NB, 4 banded. N. Shrike: 1 Nov. 1 Heldebergs, 1 Nov. 22 CC.

VIREOS–WARBLERS: Vireos: Solitary: Oct. 4 Huyck Preserve; Oct. 19-26 NB, 2 banded. Red-eyed: late Sept. CC and Loudonville; Sept.-Oct. 2 NB, 12 banded. Philadelphia: Sept. 20, 27 NB, 2 banded. Warblers: Black-and-white: only report Oct. 1 CC. Tennessee: 1 Sept. 4 Loudonville; Sept. 27-Oct. 17 NB, 3 banded. Magnolia: Sept. 1-17 CC; Sept. 1-Oct. 18 NB, 2 banded. Cape May: 1 Sept. 7 Schodack Center. Black-throated Blue: 1 Sept. 27 Mariaville. Yellow-rumped: many reports Sept. 1-Nov. 15; Oct. 11-Nov. 2 NB, 15 banded. Black-throated Green: many reports Sept. 1-Oct. 9. Chestnut-sided: thru Sept. CC; Sept. 1 NB, 1 banded. Bay-breasted: 1 Sept. 4, 13, 14 Loudonville. Blackpoll: Sept. 2 Loudonville; Sept. 28 CC; Sept. 16-Oct. 13 NB, 11 banded. Pine: Sept. 13, 16 Loudonville; last Oct. 17 CC. Palm: only report last Sept. 21 CC. Com. Yellowthroat: Sept. 8-Oct. 26 NB, 12 banded. Sept. 26 CC; 1 Sept. 27 Mariaville; 1 Oct. 21 Heldebergs. Wilson's: Sept. 9-28 NB, 3 banded. Canada: Aug. 17-Sept. 9 NB, 2 banded; 1 Sept. 14 EG; 1 Sept. 27 Mariaville. Am. Redstart: thru Sept. CC; 2 Sept. 8, 1 Oct. 7 Loudonville.

WEAVERS–SPARROWS: E. Meadowlark: flocks of 25-50 Nov. 17-30 CC; 1 Sept. 27 Mariaville; 1 Nov. 15 TR. N. Oriole: Sept. 1-30 CC. Rusty Blackbird: first Sept. 4 CC; 35 est. Oct. 26, 36 count Nov. 2 Schodack Center. Scarlet Tanager: Sept. 2 Loudonville; Oct. 3 CC; last Oct. 5 EG. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: thru Sept. 26 NB, 4 banded; 1 Sept. 27 Mariaville; last Oct. 13 CC. Indigo Bunting: thru Sept. 18 NB, 2 banded; Sept. 21 CC. Evening Grosbeak: arrived very early, Sept. 7; flocks during Oct. and Nov. max. 100 Oct. 5. Purple Finch: Sept. 4-Oct. 24 NB, 7 banded; large flock Oct. 24 Heldebergs. **HOUSE FINCH:** early Sept. thru. Pine Grosbeak: Oct. 26-Nov. 29; large flock Nov. 12 CC. **PINE SISKINS:** many reports Oct. 19 thru. Red Crossbill: 6 Oct. 10, 1 Oct. 21 Heldebergs. White-winged Crossbill: 4 Oct. 13 Heldebergs; 2 Nov. 26 at feeder Albany (D-A-B). Rufous-sided Towhee: 1 Sept.-Nov. 10 CC; 1 Oct. 19, 20, 21 EG. Vesper Sparrow: Sept. 1, Oct. 3, Nov. 23 CC. Dark-eyed Junco: many reports Sept. 27 thru; large flocks Oct. and Nov.; 50 banded since Oct. 3 NB. Sparrows: Tree: many reports Oct. 12-Nov. 25; 5 banded NB. Chipping: only report last Oct. 28 CC. Lincoln's: Sept. 26-Oct. 17 NB, 10 banded; 1 Oct. 19 Schodack Center. Swamp: Sept.-Nov. 4 CC; Oct. 2-Nov. 1 NB, 8 banded; 2 Nov. 2 Schodack Center. Song: many reports Sept.-Nov. 15; peak Nov. 1-17 NB, 84 banded. Snow Bunting: many reports Oct. 30-Nov. 25, max. 100 Nov. 18.

The records committee sends thanks to all observers that sent detailed reports to the chairman so promptly after the period ended. Also, thanks to those who reported to Dial-A-Bird. Everyone please keep the reports coming to us. These reports enable the committee to have a better record of our bird population and meet the deadline for publication in *Kingbird* by the 20th of the month.

151 North Toll St., Scotia, New York 12302 Telephone: 518–372-3728

REGION 9 – DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

Temperatures thru the season were higher than average. With the exception of one mid-Sept. frost, below freezing temperatures did not arrive until November. It was one of the wettest autumns on record. It rained every weekend in Oct. except the first, and half the weekends in Nov. Since most birders ply their trade on weekends, there was much less field work than usual. Last year's heavy rainfall was surpassed by mid-November, but no snow was reported thru the end of the period.

If one didn't know about the tremendous increase in hawk watching, one would think that all species of raptors were increasing beyond all bounds. Daily hawk watches were carried on in at least four locations in the region, and many watchers spent many single days at various locations in the mountains. Previous maximum records tumbled as new data was obtained. Unfortunately, complete information was not available at the time of publication.

In addition to hawks, excellent numbers of geese and passerines were observed by the "hawkers." Winter finches flooded southward through the mountains promising an excellent winter season. Boreal species such as both crossbills, Boreal Chickadee and both grosbeaks were reported along with hordes of siskins. Even a Gray Jay came down to Dutchess Co. and may stay the winter.

Ducks were normal, but shorebirds were better than usual. Warblers started with a very early movement in mid-August but settled down to expected norms in Sept. and Oct., with only a few late records of note. Both white-winged gulls made an unprecedented appearance in the region at Croton Point.

Contributors: Martin Borko, Robert F. Deed, Valerie Freer, Fred Hough, William Howe, Mabel Little, Lana Mills, John C. Orth, Eleanor Pink, John Tramontano.

Observers: Enid Butler, William Consiglio, William and Trixie Strauss, Marion VanWagner.

LOONS–DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 flying over Dutchess Hill Hawk Watch Sept. 15 (early); 4, Kensico Res. Oct. 27; 1 Croton Pt. Oct. 30 and another there Nov. 29. Red-throated Loon: 4-5 present Croton Pt. Oct. 21-Nov. 17. Horned Grebe: Oct. 24 Dietrich L, Dutch (MVW). 3 others in Dutch thru Nov. 15; 3 Croton Pt. Sept. 30 were very early; max. 48 Kensico Res. Oct. 27 and 23 Croton Pt. Nov. 17. Double-crested Cormorant: 1 Croton Pt. Sept. 11; 8 there Sept. 30; 32 over Hook Mt. Oct. 16. Little Blue Heron: 1 imm at Croton Pt. Oct. 21-30. Great Egret: 1 Croton Pt. Oct. 7. Snowy Egret: the 20 at Croton Pt. during Aug. reduced to 4, last seen Sept. 16. **LOUISIANA HERON:** 1 Croton Pt. late date of Nov. 17 (WH). **WHISTLING SWAN:** 2 Sept. 28 Hosner Mt. Rd. Dutch (EB). 2 observed there Nov. 4 (EP). 1 Nov. 15 on Hudson off Rhinecliff. Brant: 1 on Rudd Pd. Dutch Nov. 1 (MVW). One flock of more than 150 over Nyack Oct. 13 (RFD). 1 Croton Pt. Oct. 26-Nov. 12. Snow Geese: several reports of single birds in Oct., only flock, 60 over Hook Mt. Oct. 6. Contained 3 blue morph. Wood Duck: numbers good late Sept. 1 flock of 24 at Wawarsing Sept. 6. Redhead: an astounding 70-100 at Rudd Pd. in Nov. 9-20 (WTS). Canvasback: about 100 at Rudd Pd. and another 100 on Hudson at Beacon dur. Nov. 450-500 Croton Pt. Nov. 1, most remained thru month. Oldsquaw: 5 on Hudson in Dutch Oct. 29. White-winged Scoter: sev. Oct. 18 along Hudson at Dutch. Surf Scoter: a female at Croton Pt. Nov. 4. Black Scoter: 2 Hunn's L Oct. 24. Ruddy Duck: sev. reports during Oct. in Dutch. Max. 43 Croton Pt. Nov. 12. Common Merganser: on Hudson off Dutch Oct. 18. Max. 90 Croton Pt. Nov. 12.

HAWKS–ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: last 15 at Queensboro L. Oran Nov. 15. Goshawk: many individuals during Oct. and Nov. Red-tailed Hawk: a snowy albino remains at Verbank; max. 43 Hook Mt. Oct. 27. Broad-winged Hawk: many good flights. Waterman Bird Club had 1,591 Sept. 18 Dutchess Hill. JCO had over 2,000 at Wawarsing between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sept. 21. Max. at Hook Mt. was 4,597 Sept. 15, and 2,822 Sept. 29. More than 10,000 were counted there for the season. Rough-legged Hawk: first Oct. 12 Hook Mt., another over Bear Mt. Oct. 23. Golden Eagle: first Sept. 1 and another 3 that month over White Horse Mt. Oran. (Paul Jeheber). A single imm at Hook Mt. Nov. 1, and an ad at Mt. Peter Sept. 20. The first of 3 wintering birds arr Stissing Mt. Dutch Nov. 4 for the fifth year. Bald Eagle: 1 imm Hook Mt. Aug. 29. 2 ad Sept. 3 and an imm Sept. 28 and Oct. 2 Hook Mt. An ad over Tarrytown Res. Sept. 3 could have been one of the birds at Hook Mt. Marsh Hawk: max. 23 Hook Mt. Sept. 15. Osprey: max. 25 Hook Mt. Sept. 27. Peregrine Falcon: only report 1 Hook Mt. Sept. 27. Merlin: 2 Hook Mt. Oct. 27. Am. Kestrel: 57 Hook Mt. Sept. 27. Ruffed Grouse: numbers down in Ulster area (FH). Turkey: many re-

ported in Sull. Virginia Rail: 1 Croton Pt. Nov. 29. Sora: as many as 8 at Croton Pt. in mid-Sept. Am. Coot: 260 at Croton Pt. Oct. 26 inc. to 400 by Nov. 12. Black-bellied Plover: 2 Croton Pt. from Sept. 4-16. 1 remained till Oct. 26. Ruddy Turnstone: 1 Croton Pt. Oct. 21. Greater Yellowlegs: 1 Nov. 28 near Stanfordville was quite late. (MVW). Pectoral Sandpiper: 4 Concord Pd. Sull. Sept. 28. 2 Croton Pt. Sept. 4 inc. to max. of 75 on Sept. 25. Last there Oct. 30. White-rumped Sandpiper: 2 Croton Pt. Sept. 25. **BAIRD'S SANDPIPER:** 1 Sept. 2-5 at Croton Pt. studied as close as 5 ft. compared with the Least, Semipalmated and Western which were nearby (WH). A first for Croton Pt. Least Sandpiper: max. 25 Croton Pt. Sept. 6. Semipalmated Sandpiper: max. 40 Croton Pt. Sept. 4, 6. Last 4 there Oct. 7. **WESTERN SANDPIPER:** observed with Semis, Least and Pectorals at Croton Pt. on Sept. 3-5; 5 there on Sept. 6; 1 Sept. 10. A first at Croton Pt. Probably overlooked in other years (WH). **BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER:** The remarkable numbers observed on the sod farms of central N. J. in recent years has prompted Oran birders to check their own sod farms in the "Black Dirt" region of the county. 2 birds observed there by John Tramontano on Sept. 28. **GLAUCOUS GULL:** a first year bird at Croton Pt. from Oct. 30-Nov. 11. **ICELAND GULL:** 1 first year bird Croton Pt. Nov. 4 inc. to 2 Nov. 12. Bonaparte's Gull: 4 on Hudson off Dutch. Oct. 1. 4 Croton Pt. Oct. 26, inc. to 6 on Oct. 30. 6 there on Oct. 17.

PIGEONS–WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: down in the Wawarsing area but normal thru rest of region. Cuckoos: none reported. **SNOWY OWL:** 1, entire day of Nov. 4 on transformers near IBM plant Poughkeepsie (mob). Saw-whet Owl: 2 reports of dead birds, 1 at Mohonk Oct. 24 (Dan Smiley), and another in Dutch with feet still clamped on branch (WC). Common Nighthawk: good movement first week of Sept. Max 300 Valhalla Sept. 8. Last 3 over Kingston Oct. 1 (FH). Chimney Swift: 100 Sept. 5 Stanfordville. Heavy movement in Dutch Sept. 20. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 8 on Dutchess Hill in Sept. Red-bellied Woodpecker: singles reported in Dutch and West. 1 Dutch bird coming to suet feeder near Salt Point. Hairy Woodpecker: Dan Smiley recovered a bird he banded 11½ years ago at Mohonk.

FLYCATCHERS–STARLINGS: Wood Pewee: 3 young being fed at Pond Gut on the late date of Sept. 3, and young also being fed at Shaw Pd. Dutch as late as Sept. 7. **GRAY JAY:** 1 near Moore's Mills from Nov. 3 (MVW). Third record for Dutch since 1961. Fish Crow: flock of 6 Nov. 19 near Poughkeepsie, another flock of 30 over Kingston tidal marsh (no date). Black-capped Chickadee: VF reports 61 birds banded near Ellenville, largest number in 6 years. Average 15-20. Huge movement near Croton Pt. 75 Sept. 30, 150 Oct. 3, 150 Oct. 7. **BOREAL CHICKADEE:** scattered ones and twos from most areas. Largest numbers from West where 6 were found at Kensico Res. Nov. 28 2-3 at Tarrytown Res. Nov. 18 remained thru period (WH). Red-breasted Nuthatch: reported from all areas. Carolina Wren: good numbers. Will this be the year for a winter kill? Brown Thrasher: 1 Dutch Nov. 15 (Joan DeOrsey). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 1 Wawarsing Sept. 28. Golden-crowned Kinglet: reported most areas. Cedar Waxwing: Ralph Terhune found a nest with 3 young near Salt Point on Sept. 5. Young off nest by Sept. 11. Loggerhead Shrike: 1 near Millerton Nov. 20; 1 Croton Pt. Sept. 25.

VIREOS–WARBLERS: Late dates were reported for Black-and-white at Croton Pt. Oct. 26; Black-throated Blue Croton Pt. Oct. 26; Black-throated Green Warbler Traver Rd. Dutch Nov. 10; Blackpoll Dutch Nov. 18; Pine Warbler Croton Pt. Oct. 3; Yellow-breasted Chat Croton Pt. Sept. 4. VF banded 26 Tennessee Warblers between Aug. 23 and Oct. 3. Avg. is about 12. VF banded 8 Yellow-rumped Warblers, the lowest number in 6 years.

WEAVERS–SPARROWS: Bobolink: good numbers from most regions early in period. Max. over 3,000 moving over Cruger's Is. Dutch Sept. 6 (Dennis Alwon). Scarlet Tanager: Big flight over Pleasantville the night of Sept. 25. At least 100 calls heard in 10 min. about 10 p.m. (WH). Cardinal: still feeding young in Clinton Corners Oct. 20 (Florence Germond). **DICKCISSEL:** 2 in Dutch Sept. 26 (Bob Rasmussen). Evening Grosbeak: first 16 Monticello

Sept. 29. Excellent movement in Oct. especially in the mountains. Few at feeders thru end of period. Purple Finches: few reports. Max. flock of 60 at Pleasantville Oct. 15. Most reports of 1 to a few. House Finch: continues to inc. Pine Grosbeak: only report of 4 Dutchess Hill Hawk Watch Nov. 1 (Mary and Jim Key). Pine Siskin: exc. movement thru mountains in Nov. Few at feeders. Red Crossbill: ab. 20 at Swan L, Sull Oct. 23 (Pauline Chernick) 50 Monroe Nov. 6 and 5 Mt. Peter Nov. 6 (Bill Holland). 5-6 on Mills Est. Dutch Nov. 15. Another flock at Hyde Pk. in Nov. (no date). White-winged Crossbill: 2 Tarrytown Res. Nov. 18; 13 Pleasantville Nov. 25. **LARK SPARROW:** 1 Pocantico Hills Oct. 10 (Tom Howe). Dark-eyed Junco: first Basher Kill Sept. 7 (EDT). Chipping Sparrow: 1 Smith Rd. Dutch Nov. 3 (MVW very late). White-crowned Sparrow: 1 ad and 1 imm at feeder of MVW Pleasant Valley Nov. 8-12. None later. White-throated Sparrow: first Sept. 16. Max. 100 Croton Pt. Oct. 7. Lincoln's Sparrow: all first half of Oct. 9 in Dutch Oct. 5-15. Snow Bunting: several reports, 8 Verbank Nov. 7; 35 Nov. 16 same area; 5 Croton Pt. Nov. 12; 4 same place Nov. 29; 8 Monticello Nov. 24.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, New York 10928

REGION 10 – MARINE

ANTHONY J. LAURO and BARBARA J. SPENCER

Weather data for the period:

	HIGH TEMP.	LOW TEMP.	RAINFALL
September	71.2°F. (21.7°C)	57.1°F (13.9°C)	0.00 Inches
October	67.0°F. (19.4°C)	51.4°F (10.8°C)	3.70 Inches
November	58.8°F. (14.9°C)	45.5°F (7.5°C)	4.33 Inches

The two most interesting bird incursions into the area during the fall season curiously came from opposite directions. Unprecedented sightings of Brown Boobies off the South Shore of Long Island was followed by a more familiar wave of Black-capped and Boreal Chickadees. Two Black Vultures were reported from opposite ends of Long Island. Two Sabine's Gulls were reported on pelagic migration at Cox's Ledge. Good numbers of hawks were reported from both inland and coastal areas. North Line Island in South Oyster Bay continues to amaze. On November 9 North Line was carpeted with late shorebirds totaling approximately 22,000 individuals. A promising winter finch migration in October disappointingly subsided by mid-November.

Hawk Migration Survey on Long Island

Members of the Hawk Migration Association of North America manned a hawk observation station two miles west of Smith Point, Long Island, during September, October and early November.

In 14 observation sorties totaling 50 hours, 1,097 hawks were counted which included 844 American Kestrels, 94 Merlins, 88 Marsh Hawks, 33 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 21 Ospreys, 6 Cooper's Hawks, 4 Peregrine Falcons, 7 unidentified species. The peak count day was September 28 with 563 birds sighted, 170 in one hour, with American Kestrels predominating.

No buteos were seen, which Mr. William Graves, the leader of the observation station, believes is explained by the lack of thermal updraft over the barrier beach. Perhaps the preponderance of "bird" hawks on the ocean front can be explained by the large number of passerine migrants which supply the migrating hawks with sustenance. Mr. Graves also believes that falcons and larger accipiters are not affected by wind conditions as much as

buteos. A combination of these suppositions is probably correct.

Next fall, the goal of Mr. Graves is to continually man two stations on the beach, one on eastern Fire Island, the other on western Fire Island or Jones Beach. Consideration is being given to a Spring Hawk Watch with coverage on the north and south shores.

Individuals or clubs interested in participating in these hawk migration studies are invited to contact Mr. William Graves, 26 Livingston Road, Bellport, N.Y. 11713, telephone (516) 286-0497.

The Status of "Audubon's" Warbler on Long Island

The discovery of a Yellow-rumped Warbler, Audubon Race *(Dendroica coronata audubon)* on Fire Island November 9 by Tom Davis is the fifth record for Long Island known to the compiler. The first four are, as follows: Nov. 7, 1970 Tobay by Lauro (mistnetted and photographed), Nov. 9, 1971 Tobay by Lauro (mistnetted and photographed), Nov. 1971 Cedar Beach by Neil Ward (sight record and photographed), Jan. 25, 1973 Jones Beach by Al Woolin (sight record).

The significant point of the above is that all dates are after Nov. 1.

The Tobay and Fire Island banding stations have banded tens of thousands of Yellow-rumped Warblers of the "Myrtle" race in the past ten years. No "Audubon's" Warbler had ever been netted before Nov. 1.

Lauro, in extended winter banding studies at Tobay, has determined that very few banded October migrants winter in the vicinity and that most of the "Myrtles" that do winter arrive in the area after the first of November (in manuscript).

The five records cited above would indicate that "Audubon's" Warbler should be expected after Nov. 1 in our area and it poses an interesting thought. Does the presence of "Audubon's" Warbler in groups of wintering "Myrtle" Warblers suggest that perhaps the groups originated in western breeding locales or are the "Audubon's" Warblers simply vagrants?

Cedar Beach Tern Colony Report

The Southwest Sewer District is reportedly about to advertise for bids to run an outfall pipe from the Bergen Point Sewage Plant, now under construction on the north side of Great South Bay, in a southerly direction across the bay where the pipe will then cross the barrier beach near Cedar Beach to reach its terminus approximately two miles out at sea. The construction will be somewhat similar to that recently completed in South Oyster Bay near Wantagh/Seaford.

Incredibly, this pipe line will run right through one of, if not the most, successful Tern/Skimmer colonies on Long Island. At this writing, efforts by the Environmental Defense Fund and local Audubon Chapters to have the outfall pipe relocated west of the present anticipated track, appear to have been to no avail. The pipeline cannot be moved in an easterly direction because it would then pass through the Oak Beach Marsh, a priceless *unditched* salt marsh which presently contains the only known breeding colony of Black Rails on Long Island.

The sewer district is opposed to moving the pipeline to a more westerly direction because of the additional costs which would occur if the bay bottom soil conditions had to be re-examined and, more importantly in their viewpoint, the costs of delaying the start of the project.

It is not clear if the sewer district was aware of the existence of the tern colony when they laid out the path of the pipe. They are now expressing concern for the colony but this concern goes only as far as an expression of making the colony accommodate the pipeline.

The district has offered to create a suitable nesting habitat directly west of the present

tern site in the hope that the colony will be displaced laterally and they propose to concurrently create a new nesting site directly northeast of the colony on Nezeras Island in Great South Bay in the hope that, if the birds desert their present location, they *might* resettle on this newly constructed habitat, which will be maintained for a period of two years during the construction period. The new nesting site on Nezeras Island will then, hopefully, be maintained by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Only time will tell if the birds can be displaced with minimum harm.

Bird Banding Station Highlights

Gilbert Raynor banding at Manorhaven, Suffolk Co., reports warblers in good numbers but no sustained sparrow flight. Also, good flights of Veerys but few Gray-cheeked Thrushes.

Dennis Puleston in eastern Suffolk County reports "lots" of chickadees and good Sharp-tailed Sparrow banding. No *Oporonis* warblers were present but a Virginia Rail was netted and banded.

Darrell Ford on Fire Island reported 2 Connecticut and 3 Mourning Warblers plus 2 Orange-crowned Warblers despite an otherwise disappointing warbler flight. Thrushes were down in number. One Common Redpoll was banded, 4 Summer Tanagers and 12 Pectoral Sandpipers highlighted his banding activities at Oak Beach Marsh.

Tony Lauro reported no *Oporonis* warblers for the first time in years at Tobay with unexpected high numbers of Gray-cheeked Thrushes and a greatly reduced sparrow flight.

Dick Cohen at Atlantic Beach, Nassau Co., reported banding a Boreal Chickadee.

Observers' Initials and abbreviations: JA–Jim Ash; TWB–Thomas W. Burke; JC–Joe Costa; THD–Thomas H. Davis; SBD–Stephen B. Dempsey; JDiC–Joe DiCostanzo; HF–Howard Fischer; KF–Ken Fuestel; DBF–Darrel B. Ford; JG–John Gee; RG–Robert Giffen; BH–Bill Howe; MH–Marshall Howe; SK–Susan Kerber; GK–Georges Kleinbaum; MK–Michael Kleinbaum; AJL–Anthony J. Lauro: BL–Brook Lauro; PL–Paul Lehman; JM–John Moyle; ROP–Robert O. Paxton; DP–Dennis Puleston; GSR–Gilbert S. Raynor; JR–John Rusica; LS–Lore Schore; RWS–Robert W. Smart; BS–Barbara Spencer; JBWR–Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge; LLAS–Lyman Langdon Audubon Society; RMSP–Robert Moses State Park.

LOONS–DUCKS: Northern Fulmar: 11 20 miles south of Montauk Point Oct. 11 (Bill Wilson). **BROWN BOOBY:** 2 adults, Bellport Bay, Sept. 28 (DP). Tiana Beach. Sept. 30 (GSR). (See article on page 23 this issue.) Great Blue Heron: max. 75 in one flock, Cedar Beach. Nov. 23 Cedar Beach (MK, GK). Whistling Swan: 3 Nov. 28, Sagaponack (JR); 5 Nov. 28 Hook Pd. (GSR). Snow Goose: arrived Oct. 4 at Westhampton (GSR *et al.*), flock of 45 Cedar Beach Oct. 26 (SBD). European Wigeon: male, Fort Pond, Montauk (mob), Nov. 22 Hook Pond, Easthampton (mob.), late Nov. at Halsey's Farm Pond, Mecox (mob). Harlequin Duck: female Nov. 22 & 28 Montauk Point (mob). Common Eider: 10-15 present Oct. thru Nov. Montauk Point. Ruddy Duck: max. 1000 Nov. 22 JBWR (JDiC).

HAWKS–ALCIDS: **BLACK VULTURE:** Oct. 23 Muttontown Preserve (Bill Patterson *et al.*); Nov. 16, Montauk Point (J. Yrizarry, E. Sawyer, *et al.*), discovered by picnicking birders in pine grove at point. Sharp-shinned Hawk: max. 761 Oct. 5 Hook Mountain. Cooper's Hawk: 1 Oct. 12 Tobay Pd (GSR); 1 Oct. 22 Manorville (GSR). Red-shouldered Hawk: Nov. 29 Hoyt Farm Park, Commack (RG). Broad-winged Hawk: max. 5000 Sept. 14 at Bronx Botanical Gardens and VanCortlandt Park (mob); 4497 Sept. 15 Hook Mt. (E. Single *et al.*); 1200 Sept. 27 Bronx Botanical Gardens (E. Maguire). **GOLDEN EAGLE:** imm. Oct. 23 Muttontown Preserve (Allen Lindberg); imm. Oct. 31 JBWR (JDiC). Peregrine Falcon: 33 sightings were reported from Sept. 21 to Nov. 15 throughout the area with 4 as the highest daily number on Oct. 5 at RMSP. Merlin: max. 100+ Sept. 28 RMSP (C. Ward, H. Darrow *et al.*). American Kestrel: max. 700+ Sept. 28 Riis Pk. (JA), 500 Sept. 28

RMSP (C. Ward, H. Darrow). American Oystercatcher: Lingering birds were seen up to late Nov. in Great South Bay. American Avocet: 1 Aug. 19-28 JBWR (JA *et. al.*). Black-bellied Plover: 5000 max. Nov. 9 North Line Island (AJL). American Golden Plover: 50 Sept. 27 Sagaponack (AJL). 29 Oct. 26 Baiting Hollow Golf Course (JR); 1 Nov. 9 Pt. Lookout (THD, E. Cook *et al.*); Nov. 9 Montauk (JA). Red Knot: 50 Nov. 9 North Line Island (AJL, BL). Baird's Sandpiper: Aug. 17-20 Mecox Bay (JA); 2 Aug. 23 North Line Island (A. Dignan); Aug. 27 Moriches Inlet (PL, JM); Sept. 11 JBWR (JA); Sept. 20 Mecox Bay (O. Dunning *et al.*). Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 Sept. 12 Tobay (JR). Dunlin: 15,000 Nov. 9 North Line Island (AJL, BL). Sanderling: 2000 Nov. 2, North Line Island (AJL, BL). RUFF: 1 Sept. 1 Oak Beach Marsh (DBF *et. al.*). Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 2 Aug. 21 Sagaponack (PL *et. al.*); 2 Aug. 21 Oak Beach Marsh (RDP); 3 Aug. 23 Cedar Beach (AJL); 6 Aug. 30 Sagaponack (JA *et al.*); 1 Sept. 4 Jones Beach SP (LS); 1 Sept. 6 Tiana Beach (PL *et al.*); 3 Sept. 7 Mecox Bay (JC); 5 Sept. 27 Sagaponack (AJL). Long-billed Curlew: Sept. 12-13 Smith Point Park (Ted Levin, Paul Stoutenburg); North Line Island bird? Whimbrel: 2 Sept. 20 Smith Point Park (JR), to Oct. 26 at Oak Beach (SD, KF). Hudsonian Godwit: max. 15 at North Line Island, 9 at Oak Beach Marsh, 5 Moriches Inlet, 1 Nov. 9 North Line Island (AJL, BL); 1 Nov. 8 JBWR (R. Meyers). Marbled Godwit: 3 to Aug. 20 North Line Island (JA), Oct. 4 Tobay Pond (mob); Sept. 28-Oct. 5 JBWR (mob); Nov. 9 North Island (AJL, BL). Wilson's Phalarope: only 2 reported–Aug. 20 North Line Island (JA); Oct. 22 Oak Beach Marsh (RDP), extremely late. Parasitic Jaeger: 2 Nov. 8 Montauk Point (mob); Nov. 9 Montauk Point (JA); rare after mid-Oct. Glaucous Gull: first year bird arr. Oct. 30 at Croton Point (BH). Iceland Gull: first year bird arr. Nov. 2 at Shinnecock Inlet (mob); first year bird Nov. 8 Montauk Point (mob); 3 first year birds Nov. 30 Fire Island Inlet (AJL, BL, BS). Lesser Black-backed Gull: adult Nov. 19-23 Massapequa (AJL, BS, *et. al.*); adult Nov. 23 Fresh Kills Garbage Dump, S.I. (SK, HF). Black-headed Gull: sub-adult Sept. 28 Riis Park (JA *et al.*); adult Oct. 4 Riis Park (MH); imm. Nov. 23 Montauk (JA, JC). Little Gull: adult Nov. 5 Montauk Point (JG); adult Nov. 29-30 Montauk Inlet (mob); 1 adult, 1 imm. Nov. 30 Fire Island Inlet (AJL, BL, BS). Sabine's Gull: 1 breeding plumaged adult Aug. 31 Cox's Ledge (Ed Hagen, Buck Jenks, Harold Crandall); winter plumaged adult Sept. 28 Cox's Ledge (Rick Radis *et. al.*). Gull-billed Tern: latest report Aug. 24 at Democrat Point, Fire Island (AJL). Forster's Tern: 2 Shinnecock Sept. 1 (JR). ARCTIC TERN: Nov. 23-26 Montauk Inlet (P. A. Buckley, ROP, JA, JC, THD, P. Polshek, Marc Chamberlain). Common Tern: 500+ still present Oct. 26 at Montauk (JA, JC); 150+ Nov. 8 (mob); 12 on Nov. 23 (mob); 6 Nov. 29 (mob). Roseate Tern: adult Nov. 5 Montauk Point (JG). Royal Tern: 25 Aug. 16 Shinnecock Inlet (JA); max. 50 on Sept. 27 (AJL); 40+ Oct. 5 (mob); 10 Nov. 2 (mob); 2 Nov. 2 Montauk (JA); 2 Nov. 2 Mecox Bay (JA); 2 Nov. 6 Jones Beach S. P. (LS *et al.*); 4 Nov. 8 Montauk Point (AJL, BL). Caspian Tern: 1 Sept. 3 Riis Park (LS); 2 Sept. 27 Jones Beach (R. Harrison *et. al.*); 5 Oct. 5 Mecox Bay (mob); 2 Oct. 5 Shinnecock Inlet (mob); 2 Oct. 16 Jones Beach S. P. (Al Wollin). Black Skimmer: 45 to Nov. 6 at Jones Beach (LS *et al.*). Razorbill: 1 Nov. 22 Montauk Point (THD, RWS, TWB). Dovekie: 1 Nov. 2 Montauk (JA); 1 Nov. 27 Fire Island Inlet (AJL, BL).

PIGEONS–WOODPECKERS: Barn Owl: 2 Nov. into Dec. Hoyt Farm Park, Commack (RG). Snowy Owl: 1 Oct. 21 Jones Beach (Geo. W. Loweth); 1 Nov. 8 Northport (fide A. Dignan); 1 Nov. 9 Tiana Beach (JR); 1 Nov. 19 thru period Jones Beach S. P. (mob); 1 Nov. 29 Moriches Inlet (AJL, BL); Nov. 28 1 Far Rockaway (J. Meyer). Saw-whet Owl: 1 Nov. 2 Riis Park (LS *et al.*); 1 Nov. 15 Hoyt Farm Park, Commack (RG); 1 found dead Nov. 16 Jones Beach (W. Reilly). Over 50 were banded at Fire Island into Dec. (DBF). Common Flicker: 9000+ Sept. 28 RMSP (THD, JC); over 7000 dawn to 9 a.m., numbers estimated by sample counts throughout day, other observers estimated up to 12,000 birds. Red-headed Woodpecker: only 14 individuals reported, mostly from L.I. South Shore.

FLYCATCHERS–STARLINGS: E. Kingbird: max. 250 Aug. 29 Larchmont (PL). W. Kingbird: 1 Sept. 6 Westhampton Beach (B. Wenocor *et al.*); 1 Oct. 26 Riis Park (R. Bour-

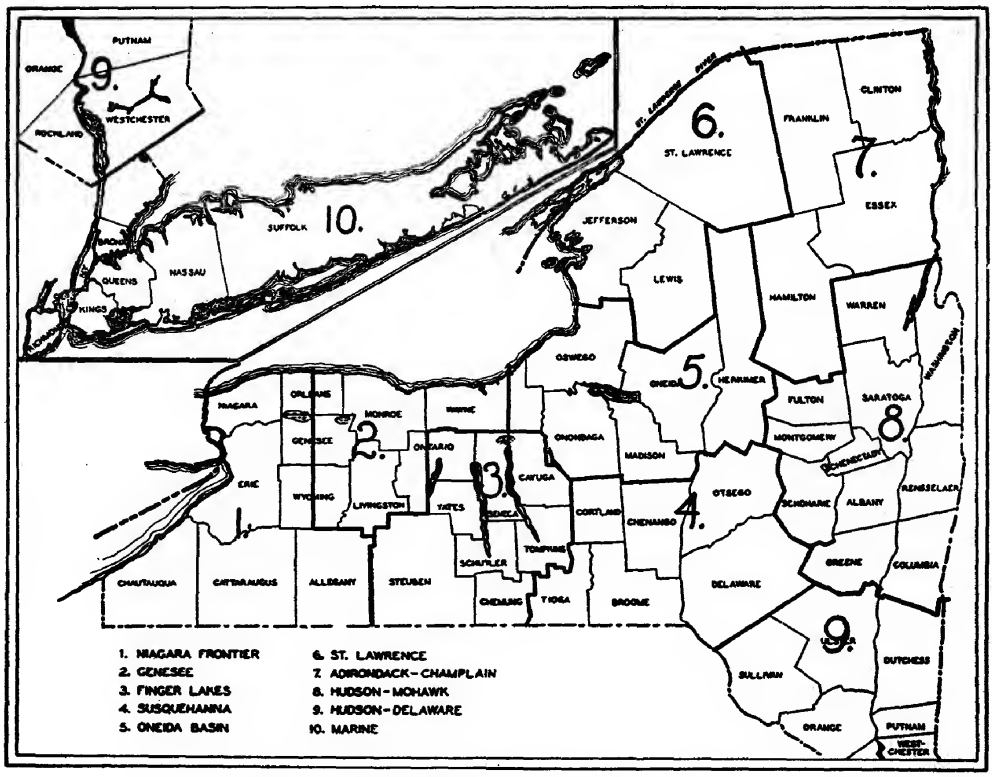
que); 1 Nov. 2 Montauk Point (JA). Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 Oct. 5 Flushing (MK). Cliff Swallow: max. 40 Aug. 29 Larchmont (PL). Blue Jay: max. 2000 Sept. 28 Riis Park (JA). Black-capped Chickadee: extremely heavy flight, especially inland. **BOREAL CHICKADEE:** 26 individuals reported, only 2 of them from L.I. Oct. 6 Central Park (S. Elliot); Oct. 7 Ft. Tryon Park (S. Raices); Oct. 7 Atlantic Beach (R. Cohen); Oct. 8 Central Park (D. Wimpfheimer); 2 Oct. 25 Bronx Botanical Gardens (T. Pezell, S. Ozard); Oct. 26 Scarsdale (JM); Oct. 29 Pleasantville (BH); 4 late Oct. thru period Poundridge Reservation (J. DelaTorre, J. Sorther); Oct. 30 Croton Point (BH); Oct. 31 Scarsdale (fide JM); Nov. 9 Tallman S. P. (W. Wilkins); Nov. 16 Fahnestock S. P. (R. Kelly *et al.*). Nov. 28 Montauk Point (D. Larsen, BS *et al.*); 3 mid-Nov. thru period Tarrytown Res. (BH); up to 6 late Nov. Kensico Res. (BH). Red-breasted Nuthatch: arr. early Aug., 25 Aug. 27 Montauk (PL, JM); max. 125 Sept. 28 RMSP (R. Kelly *et al.*). Swainson's Thrush: 1 Nov. 15-22 Hoyt Farm, Commack (RG), very late. Eastern Bluebird: 5 Oct. 10 Brookhaven National Lab (JR). Short-billed Marsh Wren: 1 Oct. 14 Howard Beach (JA). Cedar Waxwing: 400+ Aug. 27 Montauk (PL, JM); max 1000+ Sept. 28 Riis Park (JA). Northern Shrike: 1 Nov. 5 Gilgo Beach (ROP). Loggerhead Shrike: 1 Sept. 19 JBWR (P. A. Buckley); 1 Sept. 27 Riis Park (HF, SK); 1 Oct. 4 Riis Park (MH, BH); 1 Oct. 14 Howard Beach (JA); 1 Oct. 28 Howard Beach (W. Wilkins, JA); 1 Nov. 9 Mecox Bay (KF).

VIREOS–WARBLERS: Orange-crowned Warbler: 1 Oct. 5 Garvies Point (LLAS); 1 Nov. 23 Fire Island Light (DBF); 1 Nov. 29 Montauk (ROP *et al.*). Yellow Warbler: 1 Oct. 25 Lawrence (TWB *et al.*), extremely late. Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's): 1 Nov. 9 RMSP (THD), probably a male, gray face, sulphur-yellow throat noted at close range. (See status discussion above.) Bay-breasted Warbler: 1 Nov. 15 Montauk (late) (GSR). Connecticut Warbler: 8 sightings reported, most from L. I. North Shore.

WEAVERS–SPARROWS: Yellow-headed Blackbird: 1 ad. male Sept. 14 Tobay Sanctuary (AJL, SBD), 1 imm male Sept. 17 Lawrence (JA). **BREWER'S BLACKBIRD:** pair Nov. 5 Montauk (JG), seen at horse corral with starlings and cowbirds. Male's head glossed with purple, female plain gray-brown, eyes dark. Bobolink: 100+ Wading River Sept. 7 (JR). Summer Tanager: 4 banded on Fire Island during Sept. (DBF). Blue Grosbeak: 1 Aug. 26 Montauk (PL, JM); 1 male Sept. 28 Montauk (BS); 1 Oct. 4 Riis Park (BH); 1 Oct. 5 Montauk (mob); 2 Oct. 26 Montauk (JA, JC). Dickcissel: arr. Aug. 27 at Montauk (PL, JM); A very poor flight this year. 1 Oct. 5; 1 Oct. 16 Jones Beach (Al Wollin); 1 Nov. 9 Quoque Refuge (JR). Evening Grosbeak: arr. Oct. 3 at Riis Park (JA), coastal max. 50+ Oct. 26 Greenwood Cemetery (JDiC), mid-late Oct. max. inland along the ridges was in the 100's. Purple Finch: arr. Aug. 27, 15 at Montauk (PL, JM); good numbers during Sept.-very few Oct. & Nov. Pine Grosbeak: 1 Nov. 9 Greenwood Cemetery (JDiC). **HOARY REDPOLL:** 1 Nov. 24 Montauk (A. & H. Richards); studied with Common Redpolls at 20', paler, with pure white rump and undertail coverts. Common Redpoll: 1 arr. Nov. 8 at Montauk (mob); 9 Nov. 11 JBWR (JDiC); 40 Nov. 16 Tobay Sanctuary (A, Dignan); 3 Nov. 16 JBWR (THD, JC *et al.*); 4 Nov. 24 Montauk (A. & H. Richards). Pine Siskin: arr. Sept. 28; 2 at Fire Island Light (THD, JC) and 4 at JBWR (K. Rosenberg); max. 2500 Nov. 23 RMSP (DBF). Red Crossbill: 1 Oct. 26 Croton Point (BH); 25 Oct. 26 Montauk Point (JA, JC); 120 Nov. 2 Montauk (JA); 100+ Nov. 4 Riis Park (A. & H. Richards *et. al.*); 500+ Nov. 6 Jones Beach (Al Wollin); 50+ Nov. 9 RMSP (THD *et al.*); 220 Nov. 15 Gilgo Beach (JA, THD, JDiC); 150 Nov. 16 Riis Park (THD, JC); max. 400 Nov. 15 Jones Beach S.P. (E. Levine); virtually none reported after mid-Nov. White-winged Crossbill: 1 male Nov. 16 Riis Park (S. Rosenberg); 13 Nov. 25 Pleasantville (BH). Henslow's Sparrow: 1 Oct. 4 Riis Park (MH, BH); seen with a Grasshopper Sparrow. Lark Sparrow: 1 Sept. 2 Riis Park (JA); 1 Oct. 14 Howard Beach (JA); 1 Oct. 14 RMSP (LS); 1 Oct. 26 Ridge, Suffolk County (JR). Clay-colored Sparrow: 1 Sept. 13 Riis Park (JA); 1 Sept. 27 Riis Park (SK, HF). **"GAMBEL'S" WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW:** 1 adult Oct. 21 Howard Beach (JA).

Anthony J. Lauro, 9 DeSoto Road, Amityville, New York 11701
Dr. Barbara J. Spencer, 154 Dayton Street, Sea Cliff, New York 11579

REPORTING REGIONS



For descriptions of Regions see Kingbird Vol. IV Nos. 1 and 2

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Winter Season: December, January, February
Deadline is March 7

Spring Season: March, April, May
Deadline is June 7

Summer Season: June, July, August
Deadline is September 7

Fall Season: September, October, November
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